



DAILY REPORT

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NAKASONE GRANTS PRESS CONFERENCE 1 NOV

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[Press conference by Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone at the prime minister's official residence in Tokyo following the formal inauguration of his second cabinet earlier in the day -- live]

[Text] [Unidentified voice] You must be tired, Mr Prime Minister. First, would you comment on how you feel now after completing the reshuffling of the LDP leadership and cabinet lineups yesterday?

[Nakasone] Frankly speaking, I basically feel relieved now. After my reelection as LDP president and the subsequent reshuffling of the party leadership and cabinet lineups, however, I found that my thoughts were more occupied by the death of Mrs Gandhi. I visited her in May and we had good conversations on various subjects. She accorded me warm hospitality and I asked her to play the role of a bridge between Japan and the nonaligned nations. I promised to keep in contact with her. The talks we had were very nice, indeed. My sadness at the news of her tragic death was overwhelming indeed. My mind was filled with a sense of mourning for her death.

At the same time, my thoughts were with the destiny of politicians, of whom I am one. As I was reelected LDP president, my feeling was that the time allotted to me was short and limited, that I must do my best, sacrifice myself more -- and, so to speak, work hard -- in this time span in order to avoid any regrets in the future. It was my feeling that my reelection was not an extension of what they call the seat of power, but rather an extension of my responsibility, mission, and of the important job assigned to me. Therefore, I felt a bit tense, although normally I should be feeling more relieved after having done the work of reshuffling the cabinet. It was with such feelings that I burned incense for the late Mrs Gandhi before going to bed last night.

[Unidentified voice] My question may duplicate those asked at the press conference yesterday at LDP Headquarters. What was your basic policy in carrying out the party and cabinet reshuffles? Would you also comment on how you evaluate the results?

[Nakasone] Regarding the new lineup of party leaders, I believe, as I mentioned briefly yesterday, that I have successfully met the requirements for insight and high character that are expected of those high posts. At the same time, in the work of dealing with the party, I gave top priority to such matters as cooperation with opposition parties and smooth relations in the Diet. In this sense, we now have such fine leaders as Fujio and Miyazawa [Policy Affairs Research Council Chairman Masayuki Fujio and Executive Council Chairman Kiichi Miyazawa], who both are known for being farsighted. For long-term, grand-scale judgment, we now have Kanemaru [Secretary General Shin Kanemaru], who is an outstanding personality and enjoys great popularity and confidence among opposition parties. Fujio also has long experience in policy consultations with opposition leaders. I thus placed great emphasis on the required insight, high character, and cooperation with opposition parties in selecting those leaders.

Regarding the cabinet changes, I was guided by what I have been saying all these days, that is, that our cabinet is one dedicated to work, that we will work first and then await judgment by the people, and that the most important thing for the cabinet is to work for the people.

Based on this principle, I believe that I have come up with a cabinet with all capable persons in it, including high- and middle-level political leaders and some aged leaders. They represent a fine combination, each assigned to the post considered most suitable to him or her. I think that it is a cabinet of variety and individuality, representing an interesting combination of talent and dedicated to action.

Thus, variety and individuality are the major features of the new party and cabinet lineups. I expect these leaders to demonstrate their combined capabilities. If they do so as a whole, I feel that we can do quite some work. Such is my expectation. At the same time, I know that it is my responsibility as LDP president and prime minister to see to it that they do so.

Regarding your question about how I evaluate my work in this respect, I must say that it is you, my fellow citizens, men of the press, and television viewers who should do the evaluating.

[Unidentified voice] I see. I would like to ask two questions about some specific points dealing with the cabinet appointments. First, regarding the coalition issue involving the New Liberal Club [NLC], I understand that there was an intraparty attempt to do away with the coalition, and that there was even a dramatic, although brief, scene staged by some leaders because of that attempt. Finally, however, they all agreed to continue the coalition, with the result that NLC Secretary General Toshio Yamaguchi joined the cabinet as minister of labor. What is your view of the coalition issue? Second, would you also comment on why it was Yamaguchi, not Kono [NLC Chairman Yohei Kono], who joined the cabinet?

[Nakasone] Concerning our coalition with the NLC, I have been consistent. My position has been that we should continue to honor our agreement and do as we have been doing. That is the way I want and have been working for. Tagawa [former Home Affairs Minister Seiichi Tagawa], Kono, and Yamaguchi agreed with me in this respect. As a result, my position has been carried through, and there has been no change in my position. There has been no need for a change in the first place.

Through our connection with the NLC, we firmly secured a majority in the Diet, which, among other things, enabled us to retain control of the lower house Budget Committee. This situation greatly contributed to the nation's political stability and international trust. Speaking of international trust and economic prosperity, it is simply impossible to have them without political stability at home. In order to promote an upturn in business, for one thing, there must not be any political confusion. In that sense, an LDP-NLC coalition greatly contributes to preserving political stability and international trust. The NLC also shares this view and the cooperation between the two parties remains unchanged.

On the selection of Yamaguchi as a cabinet member, it was the NLC's decision. I simply accepted what was proposed by the NLC. Yamaguchi was one of the star players when the two parties announced their coalition. I think that his contribution was great. Moreover, as you know, he is a fine politician, fresh and modern, remarkably capable, and very gifted. When the NLC recommended him, I gladly accepted him into the cabinet. I asked him to take over a difficult post -- the Ministry of Labor -- and he gladly accepted.

[Unidentified voice] While the new cabinet has, as a prominent feature, 14 new faces, it has also retained 3 ministers from the previous cabinet -- Finance Minister Takeshita, Foreign Minister Abe, and Management and Coordination Minister Gotoda. Please comment on the three ministers who were retained?

[Nakasone] Their retention is of very important significance in ensuring the continuity of cabinet policies. Each holds a key to the nation's international trust, political stability, and administrative management. For that reason, I asked them to stay on. I have always felt that the same person should be in charge of external affairs as long as possible, particularly foreign and financial affairs.

When you go to a summit, a new face -- be it a prime minister or a foreign or finance minister -- tends to stay behind others as a freshman. A familiar face with more experience will naturally speak more. It is in our national interest that cabinet members in charge of external affairs stay on as long as possible and work with the prime minister as one.

As for the three ministers staying on this time, I know that they had their reasons for wanting to quit their respective posts. Nevertheless, I went ahead and sought their cooperation for the sake of our national interests. I asked them to sacrifice their personal interests. Meanwhile, administrative reform is a major cabinet policy. It was for this reason that I had Gotoda stay on in the cabinet. Komoto [former Economic Planning Agency Director General Toshio Komoto] remains in the cabinet, this time as minister without portfolio. In that capacity, he will assist and advise me, for instance on matters relating to political management.

That was my philosophy behind retaining the three in the new cabinet. In other words, I placed top priority on international trust, political stability, and the continuity of policies, including administrative reform.

[Unidentified voice] Komoto is listed as minister without portfolio. It is also said that he will be acting as deputy prime minister. Specifically, what will be his job?

[Nakasone] Under the regulations governing cabinet organization, he will be in charge of programs specially entrusted by the prime minister. I will ask him to oversee various projects. Komoto has a good deal of experience in the political field and profound knowledge on economic matters, and I hope to have his advice whenever necessary and will request his cooperation with special programs.

[Unidentified voice] My question concerns events during the party reshuffle. LDP Vice President Nikaido criticized the Nakasone administration in the course of your reelection as party president. Nevertheless, you named him to retain his post as party vice president. Why?

[Nakasone] Mr Nikaido never said he would run for the presidency, as I said yesterday, while some of those who support him for his personality and political insight might have wanted him to run. Mr Nikaido himself, however, never said that he would run, or that he would take the necessary steps to that end.

It was under these circumstances that I met with him yesterday to request his cooperation. He accepted and stayed on as party vice president. I believe he will use his precious talent to promote both party and national interests. This is my feeling on the matter concerning Mr Nikaido.

Well, the episode could have the effect of a finger on a sore spot. I see myself as a man of shortcomings in various areas and a man still learning about various things.

[Unidentified voice] Well, so much for personnel affairs; I would like to move on to the next question. Since the LDP presidential election ended earlier than anticipated, you now have some time to spare for other things -- the entire month of November at least. On the other hand, there are such bills as the telegraph and telephone public corporation reform bill and the national annuity reform bill that require early passage.

While I understand that the administration is planning to work for their passage in the next regular Diet session, some people are in favor of convening an extraordinary session, some people are in favor of convening an extraordinary session to expedite action. What is your political timetable for the immediate future, including your consideration of the next Diet session?

As I said yesterday, I will consider the opinions of the LDP and opposition parties before deciding on whether to convene an extraordinary Diet session. When I informally asked for party opinion, the response was that since the LDP and the opposition parties reached an understanding on this matter during the closing days of the last Diet session, there was no reason to change the original plan. Accordingly, the LDP sees no need to convene an extraordinary session and is increasingly in favor of going ahead with the original plan. We plan to study the party opinion fully. We will also have to study the opinions of the opposition parties in the future. But I believe things will most probably settle in the direction I have just mentioned.

[Unidentified voice] On the compilation of the 1985 budget, the fiscal reform program will enter a crucial stage when next year's budget is compiled. So far in fiscal 1984, tax revenues have leveled off, spending cuts have reached their limits, and in particular, the deficit-financing bonds have been reduced by only 500 billion yen, just half the plan. All this augurs still tighter government finances next year. Under these circumstances, do you think the Nakasone cabinet can push through its policy of fiscal reconstruction without tax increases?

[Nakasone] I plan to push it through. Since we are still in the middle of compiling the budget, there are no definite figures yet. We still have 2 months left. In the meantime, we have to see how the tax system research councils of the government and the LDP will handle the question of unfair taxation and other problems. In addition to these pending questions, we also have to see to what extent tax revenues will increase and consider how to secure nontax revenues, over which there is an ongoing controversy. There are also problems relating to the selling of state-owned land, as well as land owned by the national railways and the Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corporation [NTT]. The proceeds from these sales will go to the national railways and NTT as revenue. These nontax revenues directly and indirectly concern the government. All of these problems remain unsettled. As a result, there are no definite figures yet in compiling the budget. That is why I cannot say anything definite. Nevertheless, I plan to abide by the idea of rebuilding government finances without tax increases and the policy of ending dependence on deficit-financing bonds by 1990. To this end, we must make wholehearted efforts in compiling the 1985 budget.

Even so, we must give hope and light to our citizens in compiling the budget. We must do our best for those people in situations of distress and weak positions. It is our present responsibility to prepare bids for the future. We have to consider all of these points. All this will depend on how the pertinent figures are arrived at. After fully studying these matters, I will have the party make a final decision, and I myself will join them in making the decision when the budget is drawn up in December.

[Unidentified voice] Next, I would like to take up some specific points of the budget. Defense spending is expected to be the hottest issue. With the basic pay for civil servants slated to be increased by 3.4 percent, it has become uncertain, as far as figures go, whether it will be possible to keep defense spending within 1 percent of the GNP in the current fiscal year. Moreover, if the request for a 7-percent increase in defense spending in the 1985 budget is granted, the 1-percent limit will automatically be broken in the next fiscal year even if efforts are made to observe the limit by economizing on other defense expenditures other than pay.

There are already moves in the LDP Security Affairs Research Council demanding a review of the 1-percent limit. Rehashing the controversy over the 1-percent defense spending limit forever is futile. I think the time to review this limit has arrived. What is your opinion?

[Nakasone] I plan to abide by the government policy adopted by the Miki cabinet in 1976. As I have said all along, I will try hard to abide by it. Nevertheless, it cannot be denied that as a result of the latest decision of the National Personnel Authority, the gap between the ceiling and actual spending has become narrower, and spending is more closely approaching the 1-percent ceiling.

The matter also relates to the growth in the GNP. When the economy expands, the GNP will grow. Therefore, we must watch trends in the economy while considering the issue. Nevertheless, there is no change in my plan to make efforts to observe the policy founded by the Miki cabinet in 1976.

[Unidentified voice] My question relates to the budget. How important is public works spending in the budget? It seems the LDP is focusing attention on this question. Judging from the composition of the new cabinet, it is expected that the wishes of the party will be strongly reflected in the budget to be compiled. How will you respond to the strong party demand for an increase in public works spending? Please tell us about your plan for public works spending.

[Nakasone] Different people have different views on what the economic situation will be next year. Some people say there is cause for concern about the U.S. economy next year. There is the danger that the Japanese economy will slow down next year, affected by the U.S. economy. We will have to forecast next year's economic situation based on the economic conditions this December before deciding on public works spending. However, I plan to observe the principle that the volume of public works projects will not be reduced. When it comes to such specific questions as how the money will be raised, we will make a decision after consulting the party in the course of budget compilation in December. At any rate, there are many problems involving budget compilation, such as those relating to public works, education expenditures, welfare, and bound servicing expenses. In my view, the budget should be compiled from a broad viewpoint by considering a balance between these factors. From this viewpoint, we will consider public works spending. We will consult the party because the budget will be compiled by reflecting on opinions from all quarters.

Nevertheless, I believe that the budget should be compiled in line with the ad hoc administrative research council; that is, along the line indicated by Doko. This means that the budget will be an austere one. We have no other choice but to work hard to correct deficit-ridden government finances by 1990. If we were to put off this painful, arduous task and pass it on to future generations, we would be committing an injustice. We must settle the matter ourselves. So, we must toil. The world situation, including Japan, the United States, Great Britain, Germany, and France, is so severe that politicians cannot say only sweet things, even if they want to. Every country is trying to reduce the deficit in its national budget. At the London summit, an agreement was made to reduce deficits. Efforts to reduce fiscal deficits have been launched in the United States, Great Britain, and by Mitterrand's French socialist government. Every country is doing this despite difficulties.

Japan must also endure what must be endured. Nevertheless, we should not nip our hopes in the bud. We must include in the budget whatever expenses are deemed essential from the viewpoint of Japan's long-term plans. But, as a general rule, we must compile a budget from the standpoint I have just mentioned. What is most important is, as I pointed out yesterday, fairness.

By fairness I mean that everyone feels his share of the burden agreeable and bears it. I believe that we must do our utmost to achieve fairness and take care of people in weak positions and those who are really in distress as a national duty.

[Unidentified voice] I would like to ask questions about specific policy tasks. An election is, needless to say, a most important process for reflecting the will of the people. In last year's lower house election, the gap in parliamentary representation between different constituencies widened still further. As you just said, the will of the people must be reflected in politics. But there is a gap in Diet representation. There is strong, widespread discontent about this. Recently, the Tokyo High Court passed a stern judgment that the ratio of 1:3 is the maximum permissible gap in Diet representation. In your press conference yesterday as LDP president, you said you would do your best to narrow the gap. Specifically, in what form, by what method, and in what order are you going to accomplish that end?

[Nakasone] This is a very important question on which the court has passed judgment and expressed its view. I believe we must implement the decision of the Supreme Court. The last ruling was made by the Tokyo High Court, but the Supreme Court has made a similar ruling. That is why we, for our part, are exerting every effort to correct the gap in Diet representation. In the last Diet session, we worked hard. The party's Election Measures Committee and Election System Committee discussed the matter in depth and tried to reach a consensus by pooling the views of officials concerned. During the current Diet adjournment, we sent officials to the United States, Germany, and other foreign countries to study their election systems. In this way we are making efforts to review our election system in a rational manner.

The LDP has prepared a draft plan, and efforts are now being made to have it adopted as a party consensus. We are now doing our best to come up with a final plan for Diet seat reapportionment and present it to the next Diet session. I regard this task as very important.

[Unidentified voice] This is a related question. Recently the Tokyo High Court ruled that, as a general rule, if the situation exists in which the strength of a vote in one constituency is more than three times the strength of a vote in another constituency, it would be unconstitutional. It also ruled that, if the Diet is dissolved under such circumstances, the dissolution would be likewise unconstitutional. Mr Prime Minister, what do you think about this?

[Nakasone] I touched on the matter yesterday. At any rate, what is most important is that the Diet and the government make sincere efforts to correct the disparity in Diet representation. That is the major premise, and we are making every effort to that end. However, the question of readjusting constituencies is a vital matter for dietmen, because it involves losing their seats. As the saying goes, when a monkey falls from a tree, it still remains a monkey, but when a dietman loses his seat, he becomes a man without title, and loses his reputation. That is why dietmen are dead serious about the question of readjusting constituencies. The electorate is likewise seriously considering the matter. Therefore, it is very difficult to tackle this question. Difficult as it may be, we have to do something about it now that there is a court ruling. So, the LDP is, in fact, tackling the question with might and main. In addition to visible efforts, invisible efforts are also important. By invisible efforts, I mean consultations with people concerned. We shall continue to make these visible and invisible efforts until we can present a bill in the Diet as an initial goal. That is the major premise.

Yesterday I presented my personal view as general argument. My personal general argument is this: In our opinion, the power to dissolve the Diet is a very important constitutional right of the cabinet, guaranteed under the Constitution. It can be said one of the most important constitutional rights. Dissolving the Diet means that the cabinet or the administration, terminates the term of the Diet, the highest organ of state power. When the lower house dissolves itself, it is exercising its right unto itself. But dissolving the Diet by the cabinet means, in a nutshell, the firing of the members of the Diet, the highest organ of power, by the cabinet, or the administration. This most important right is granted to the cabinet by the national Constitution in Article 7. It is possible to consider the power to dissolve the Diet from the standpoint of Diet seat apportionment. But it is an important problem, involving the basic principles of national sovereignty.

Suppose the Lower House introduced a motion for a nonconfidence vote, and the motion was carried. In that event, the cabinet would have either to dissolve the Diet or to resign. If the cabinet cannot dissolve the Diet, would there be no other choice but to resign? In the latter case, some serious problems facing state administration might ensue.

Consider another case, in which the term of the Diet has expired. In this case, the only way open is to hold an election. But if, the disparity in the relative strength of the ballots exceeds the 3:1 ratio, would there be no way to hold an election? This hypothetical question can be raised from a legal standpoint.

After pondering all of these problems, I have arrived at this personal view: This important power to dissolve the Diet is granted to the cabinet by the Constitution. The state grants the cabinet this important political power essential to managing state administration through the Constitution, so that the cabinet can deal with problems encountering state administration, and thus carry on administering the state. Dealing with the important question of dissolving the Diet is, in a sense, an exercise in governing powers, and constitutes one phase of the operation of sovereign powers. Dealing with the question of whether to dissolve the Diet is a most important phase experienced in live politics and live political current. For politicians to bet their fate on the question of whether live politics can continue, or whether a particular problem can be solved -- this, I believe, is an important phase in exercising sovereign powers. All this considered, I have doubts about the latest court ruling. Can the power to dissolve the Diet be restricted, simply because of the question of the disparity in the relative voting strength? Can it be said assertively that exercising this power under present circumstances would be unconstitutional and invalid? Answers to these questions will depend on the ultimate decision of the Supreme Court. The court ruling says it is unconstitutional, but (?there is no ruling yet) by which it is valid.

In my view, the legislative and administrative branches should seriously study these questions. That is why I have instructed government agencies concerned, mainly the Bureau of Legislation, to study them. The opinion I just presented **is my personal view and a general argument.**

[Unidentified voice] Does that mean that you will wait until the Supreme Court makes a final ruling to deal with the legal aspects of the issue?

[Nakasone] In the final analysis, we shall be guided by the Supreme Court ruling. Compared with the Supreme Court, the Tokyo High Court is at a lower level. Nevertheless, the fact that the latter issued the kind of ruling you mentioned, in the course of arguments over this issue, is a matter of grave concern for politicians. It should be the position for all politicians to assume, the position of political conscience, to do whatever possible to correct the abnormal situation. With this in mind, I am striving to correct the situation.

[Unidentified voice] My question concerns the administration's foreign policy. On the death of Prime Minister Gandhi, you expressed your condolences earlier. You are also scheduled to leave for India tomorrow and, in this connection, I think that, because of unique factors involving India as a nation, among other things, leaders of various countries -- Western, communist bloc and nonaligned -- will probably get together in New Delhi. Do you think you will have any diplomatic talks with those leaders when you get there?

[Nakasone] I am now having the Foreign Ministry study that matter. With the understanding of the party, it has been tentatively decided that I will depart tomorrow. As you know, 3 November is Culture Day, and a number of events, such as the presentation of the Order of Culture, are scheduled for the occasion. However, my journey to India, an event of major international significance, far outweighs them. I therefore am planning to ask Komoto to act on my behalf as prime minister during my absence. I think that I shall most likely have time to spare after making condolence calls. Therefore, I shall try to meet as many important leaders of various countries as possible, and exchange views with them. In this connection, I have instructed the Foreign Ministry to make the necessary preparations. The Foreign Ministry is now studying which countries' leaders I should meet, and what I should discuss with them. I believe that the ministry is now in the process of trying to make contacts.

[Unidentified voice] Regarding the administration's diplomatic timetable, I would like to ask some overall questions since not much time is left for this press conference. Both the U.S. and Japanese Administrations have lately been in a similar situation -- the kind of situation we see today. Once the U.S. presidential election is over, however, Washington will make new moves in relations with Japan -- in the area of trade for example. First, what is your plan for future management of relations with the United States? Second, do you plan to visit Washington to attend the inauguration of the new president, and to have a summit meeting if you visit? Finally, would you let us know if you plan to visit any other country in the near future?

[Nakasone] I feel that there are two kinds of problems -- problems for the immediate future and problems for the year 1985. Speaking of the immediate future, I have been thinking lately -- for about 3 months now -- about the 6 November U.S. presidential election, and the inauguration of the new president on 20 January next year. The period between the two events is more important than is generally recognized, I think. The president-elect will begin consolidating whatever policies he will announce after the inauguration, in earnest. It is necessary that we fully discuss bilateral issues during that period. Issues are numerous and varied, including the economy, peace and disarmament, security, nonalignment, and the Middle East. For that reason, I am having the Foreign Ministry study the possibility of arranging Japan-U.S. contacts and consultations on such basic issues in the period between 6 November and 20 January. This does not necessarily mean that I shall be visiting Washington, however. It is possible that experts of both nations will discuss issues as policy matters. It is also possible that the Foreign Ministry will be playing a central role in that case. We still do not know what kind of format will be most effective. It is precisely what I asked the Foreign Ministry to study. I think that this is a very important matter, although few people realize its importance. That is why I gave the Foreign Ministry my instructions as early as 3 months ago.

Nothing has been decided about when I shall meet with the new U.S. president. We do not even know who will be elected, consequently, I do not think it is appropriate for me to comment on it now.

Regarding a timetable for next year, it is my feeling that once the U.S. presidential election is over, the nuclear disarmament issue, the issue of peace and disarmament, will emerge as a major issue, and have its place on the order of the day. It is necessary that we prepare Japan's response and strategy without a hitch. I also ordered a study of this matter by the Foreign Ministry and other authorities concerned. In my view, there is a very high possibility of the United States and the USSR holding talks next year on the nuclear disarmament issue, the issue of disarmament in general, and the issue of easing general global tensions. However, even if the two sides should come to the table for talks, it would not necessarily mean that issues will be resolved. It would perhaps take much longer to resolve the issues. The fact that they come to the table, however, will have the effect of reducing tension by itself, shaping a line of dialogue. I am willing to help promote such developments. I thus anticipate that next year will see the whole world searching for peace and disarmament -- searching for it in practice. With that anticipation, we are planning to study and prepare our policies.

We also have Japan-U.S. economic issues, various other bilateral issues, and a number of issues involving the free world and communist-bloc nations. Officials concerned are under my instructions to make the necessary study and prepare our responses.

Regarding my future overseas trips, nothing has been decided yet.

[Unidentified voice] Regarding economic issues between Japan and the United States, particularly the trade issue, U.S. deficits against Japan are about to reach the second highest level in history. What is your view of this issue?

[Nakasone] The issue is one of those listed in the written opinion received from the Wisemen's Council, a Japan-U.S. advisory commission. It remains the biggest headache on our part. We know that we cannot afford to leave it unresolved. The second Nakasone cabinet will study the matter in earnest, and implement the necessary measures, I can assure you. One thing I am concerned about is how the yen-dollar exchange rate shifts in the future. Japanese exports continue to increase as you know, and this situation is attributable to, among other things, the high U.S. interest rates, and the cheap yen -- so much cheaper compared with what we think is its due value. Then, what will come of the exchange rate in the future? It seems to me that the slips in the yen value were caused, in part, by the slides in the value of European currencies. We should consider all such factors when we study trade problems.

At any rate, however, we are not allowed to remain indifferent in the face of such facts as you have mentioned. It is my plan that the whole government, all the ministries and agencies, will exert their utmost to find ways and means to remove any friction in the area of trade.

[Unidentified voice] The last question concerns your cooperation with opposition parties. Much criticism against you has been heard in the process of party and cabinet reshuffling in this connection, would you comment on who you will promote cooperation with opposition parties?

[Nakasone] First of all, we have, for some time, already been discussing the matter of policy consultations with opposition parties. If opposition parties so desire, we shall be willing to enter policy consultations with them, with the LDP Policy Affairs Research Council acting on our behalf. In addition, it is our desire to have constructive talks with them on such issues as dealing with Diet policies, Diet management, and legislative reform -- there has been a strong call for such reform. In this case, LDP executives, the LDP Diet Policy Committee, or its Policy Affairs Research Council, will be playing the major role on our behalf, depending on the nature of the issue.

On all such issues, we shall actively press for cooperation with opposition parties if they so desire, too.

[Unidentified voice] Finally, in view of what occurred in the process of your reelection, we feel that the path of political management ahead of you is a very severe one. Under the circumstances, some within the LDP even see the second Nakasone cabinet as being a chilled-to-the-marrow cabinet [sokobie naikaku]. In this situation, we feel that future development over the issue of Diet dissolution and a general election is becoming a matter of public concern. What is your view of this issue?

[Nakasone] I have no plan to dissolve the Diet. There is absolutely no reason for me to think about dissolving the Diet. Regarding various criticisms of the Nakasone cabinet, I should say that I need to listen to them in a humble way for what they truly mean. People call my cabinet a sharp-rise-and-big-fall type [boto boraku gata] cabinet. They say that it makes a sharp rise, then a big fall, and a sharp rise once again. While I have been in power, rather when I was installed in power 2 years ago, I was subjected to stern criticism in sensational newspaper articles, as if Mt Fuji had erupted. Some, for instance, accused me of a close race; in response, I made up my mind to work harder than anyone else, and demonstrate my true self in my performance. I have done my best, and now I find myself enjoying the support of public opinion. I am grateful for all of these developments. The situation I was in after the last general election was also a severe one, which was comparable to a close race indeed. The one I just experienced was also very similar to that situation. In a way, mine could be characterized as a tightrope-walking cabinet [tsunawatari naikaku]. This is something that encourages me, however. As a politician, I see my supreme happiness in working hard in that kind of situation. There are no countries in this world where everything is in perfect shape. While I admit that I have caused troubles for many people, because of my shortcomings in various areas, I am devoting myself to my job, and doing everything possible for its success. Such being the way I am, I shall be satisfied if I can win the support of my fellow citizens for what I am. I shall continue to devote myself to my work, body and soul.

You may recall that I once composed this Haiku poem: Dusk has already fallen. Yet cicadas sing, putting all in their chorus. I often recall that Haiku I composed. I am resolved to continue devoting myself to my work, just like those cicadas which refuse to stop singing. I shall be happy to have your support.

[Unidentified voice] Thank you.

[Nakasone] Thank you.

LDP NAMES NEW PARTY SECRETARIES GENERAL

OW050909 Tokyo KYODO in English 0853 GMT 5 Nov 84

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 5 KYODO -- The Liberal-Democratic Party has named six new secretaries general and retained two others, LDP officials said Monday. The six were Toshiki Kaifu, Keizo Obuchi, Kabun Muto, Kiyoshi Muto, Yoshiro Mori and Koichi Hamada, all but Hamada former Cabinet ministers and members of the House of Representatives (lower house). Taro Nakamura and Katsuhisa Kamijo, both members of the House of Councillors (upper house), were retained as deputy secretaries general. The governing party reshuffled its lineup October 31, reelecting Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone president for two more years. Nakasone retained Susumu Nikaido as vice president and chose Shin Kanemaru as secretary general replacing Rokusuke Tanaka.

NAKASONE ATTENDS GANDHI FUNERAL, MEETS LEADERS

Expresses Sympathy

OW030836 Tokyo KYODO in English 0825 GMT 3 Nov 84

[Texr] New Delhi, Nov. 3 KYODO -- Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone expressed his condolences over the assassination of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi Saturday morning when he paid a call on Gandhi's eldest son, Rajiv, India's new prime minister. Nakasone arrived in New Delhi earlier in the day to attend the state funeral for the slain leader, to be held at 4:30 p.m. Saturday (8 p.m. JST).

Calling Indira Gandhi a "great leader," Nakasone told Rajiv the world would never forget her achievements and her devotion to prosperity of developing countries and nonaligned nations. Nakasone pledged that Japan would take good care of the two elephants she presented to Japan last September, Japanese officials said. Rajiv replied that he would do his best for world peace and disarmament in pursuance of his mother's will, the officials said.

Prior to the meeting, Nakasone laid a wreath at the strictly guarded Nehru Memorial Hall, where Gandhi's body lay in state. Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe and former Foreign Minister Yoshio Sakurauchi, president of the Parliamentarians' League for Japan-India Friendship, accompanied the prime minister. Nakasone later told reporters that he expresses his deepest condolences over "the sublime sacrifice" of Indira Gandhi.

At the entrance of the hall, he passed by Soviet Prime Minister Nikolay Tikhonov, who was leaving the hall after laying a wreath, but neither man acknowledged the other.

Meets with Tikhonov

OW041001 Tokyo KYODO in English 0943 GMT 4 Nov 84

[Text] New Delhi, Nov. 4 KYODO -- Japanese and Soviet leaders, in their first face-to-face meeting in 11 years Sunday, agreed in principle to work toward improving their bilateral relations, Japanese officials said. Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone and Soviet Premier Nikolay Tikhonov, here to attend Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's funeral, held talks at the Soviet Embassy for 35 minutes.

The meeting can be regarded as demonstrating Moscow is turning in favor of seeking improvement of its relations with Japan, the officials said. At the strong urging by the Japanese, they said, Tikhonov turned conciliatory and agreed to meet Nakasone. When it came to specific approaches, however, both sides remained wide apart, they said.

Nakasone, accompanied by Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe, called for early settlement of disputes over the Soviet-held islands east of Japan's northernmost main island of Hokkaido and for an early visit to Tokyo by Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko, they said. In response, Tikhonov stressed the need for Japan to build up an atmosphere conducive to Gromyko's Tokyo visit, they said.

Top Japanese and Soviet leaders last met in October 1973. Then Japanese Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka visited Moscow for talks with then Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev and Premier Aleksey Kosygin. Nakasone rated highly recent contacts between Japanese and Soviet officials in Moscow and in Tokyo, expressing hope for further dialogues and people-to-people exchanges to improve relations between the two countries, the officials said.

The Soviet premier urged, they said, an early conclusion of a Soviet-proposed good-neighborly cooperation treaty between the two countries along with long-term economic cooperation and culture agreements. They quoted Tikhonov as saying improvement of relations must be spelled out in some specific forms of documents, not in mere words.

Nakasone sidestepped the urging, however, saying Japan has its own way of thinking, they said. Foreign Minister Abe pointed out the need to settle the territorial issue and concluded a Japan-Soviet peace treaty first, they said.

Tikhonov countered that as long as Japan is poised to take up the territorial problem as a pending issue, discussions will make no progress, they said. They quoted Tikhonov as adding Japan's claim that the territorial problem remains unsettled has resulted in the current freeze on the economic and cultural relations between the countries.

Nakasone, who met U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz Saturday night and British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher Sunday morning, was also scheduled to hold talks with the presidents of Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh later Sunday. Nakasone will leave for home around midnight Sunday and arrive at Tokyo's Haneda Airport at 9 a.m. Monday.

Talks With New Zealand's Lange

OW040509 Tokyo KYODO in English 0502 GMT 4 Nov 84

[Text] New Delhi, Nov 4 KYODO -- Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone has suggested that he may visit Australia and New Zealand next January. In a meeting Saturday here with New Zealand's Prime Minister David Lange, Nakasone reportedly said: "I hope to go to (New Zealand and Australia) as soon as possible." Nakasone and Lange were in New Delhi for the state funeral of the assassinated Indian leader Indira Gandhi.

Nakasone's visit to Oceania has been overdue since he dropped a scheduled tour of the region last summer because of domestic preoccupations. In Saturday's meeting, Lange renewed an invitation to Nakasone to visit his country and added the January-February season is the best to visit New Zealand, according to Japanese officials accompanying Nakasone. The two leaders also agreed to promote economic exchange between Japan and New Zealand, they said. Discussing pan-Pacific cooperation, Lange praised Japan for deepening ties with South Pacific island nations, saying this is meaningful from a global strategic viewpoint, the officials said. Nakasone reportedly said Japan will help to realize a scheme of cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region with its core being the countries in the South, not big countries.

Meets Asian Leaders

OW050038 Tokyo KYODO in English 0025 GMT 5 Nov 84

[Text] New Delhi, Nov 5 KYODO -- Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone concluded his visit to New Delhi Sunday by separate meetings with the leaders of Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh. The Afghan issue was the main topic of Nakasone's talks with Pakistani President Ziaul Haq, Japanese officials accompanying Nakasone said. Ziaul Haq reportedly briefed Nakasone on the latest situation in Afghanistan and said the Soviet Union recently put an additional 50,000 troops to combat Afghan guerrillas.

As a result, the rebel forces were on the defensive, President Ziaul Haq said, adding that the Soviet forces now control not only major Afghan cities but also communication networks between them, according to the officials.

In a meeting between Nakasone and Sri Lanka's President Junius Richard Jayewardene, the latter asked Japanese banking firms to invest more in Sri Lanka to promote a Mahaveli River dam construction and other projects. Jayewardene extended an invitation to Nakasone to visit Sri Lanka at an appropriate time, the officials said.

Nakasone also held talks with Bangladesh President Hussain Mohammad Ershad and the two discussed Japan's economic cooperation with Bangladesh, according to the officials.

Returns Home

OW050104 Tokyo KYODO In English 0047 GMT 5 Nov 84

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 5 KYODO -- Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone returned to Tokyo Monday from a two-day visit to New Delhi, where he attended the state funeral of the assassinated Indian leader Indira Gandhi. Nakasone also held a series of talks with world's leaders, including Soviet Prime Minister Nikolay Tikhonov, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

His talks with Tikhonov, the first face-to-face meeting between prime ministers of Japan and the Soviet Union in 11 years, was described by Japanese officials as "the highlight of Nakasone's funeral diplomacy." In the talks, the two leaders agreed in principle to work toward improving their bilateral relations, although their stands on the territorial issue over the northern islands were still wide apart. The officials, accompanying Nakasone, said the New Delhi talks were a step forward toward better relations between Japan and the Soviet Union.

FOREIGN MINISTER ABE ATTENDS GANDHI FUNERAL

Meets With Shultz

OW040551 Tokyo KYODO in English 0532 GMT 4 Nov 84

[Text] New Delhi, Nov. 4 (KYODO) -- Japan and United States agreed to continue close consultations on the Korean situation during a meeting here between Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe and Secretary of State George Shultz, officials said. Abe and Shultz, currently here for the state funeral of the slain Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, met Saturday night for 20-minute talks which were dominated by the Korean problem, according to Japanese officials accompanying Abe.

Abe explained the background of Japan's announcement on October 31 that Tokyo will lift the sanctions against North Korea on January 1 in connection with last year's Rangoon incident. Abe told Shultz the decision was taken by taking into account the mounting expectations of a North-South dialogue, and that Japan's policy toward the North would not change despite the decision, according to the officials. Japan does not recognize North Korea diplomatically. Japan imposed the sanctions, including a ban on contact between Japanese and North Korean diplomats, in November last year in protest against North Korea's involvement in the October 9, 1983 bomb attack in Rangoon. Seventeen South Koreans, including four Cabinet ministers, were killed in the incident.

Shultz reportedly said difficulties still remained in improving relations between North and South Korea. There are both "potentially dangerous factors" and "constructive factors" in the current situation on the Korean peninsula, the secretary of state was quoted as saying.

Abe, who was accompanying Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, also held talks with West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher at a New Delhi hotel and discussed relations with the Soviet Union and economic problems between Japan and West European nations, the officials said. Abe briefed Genscher on the recent visit to Tokyo by Soviet Politburo member Dinmukhamed Kunayev, according to the officials.

In the Tokyo meetings between the Soviet official and Japanese leaders, no substantial progress was made in Tokyo-Moscow relations as the territorial issue involving the Soviet-held northern islands remained a stumbling block, Abe reportedly said. Abe added, however, he detected some flexibility emerging on the Soviet side, the officials said.

Genscher took up the recent Soviet criticism of what Moscow calls revanchist West Germany, and said the Soviet attitude was aimed at putting pressure on its East European allies in fear of expansion of East-West dialogue in Europe, according to the officials.

On bilateral problems, Abe and Genscher agreed to study the feasibility of holding a regular foreign ministers meeting between Japan and West Germany in Tokyo before next year's economic summit of seven industrial democracies, the officials said.

Sunday morning, Abe also conferred with his Swiss Foreign Minister Pierre Aubert and the two agreed that Japan and Switzerland would further expand economic relations. Abe expressed the hope that the two countries would be good competitors as industrial countries, according to Japanese officials. Abe extended an invitation to Aubert to visit Tokyo at an appropriate time, which the Swiss minister accepted.

Talks With UK's Thatcher

OW040725 Tokyo KYODO in English 0658 GMT 4 Nov 84

[Text] New Delhi, Nov. 4 KYODO -- Japanese and British Prime Ministers Yasuhiro Nakasone and Margaret Thatcher, here to attend the funeral of India's assassinated Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, exchanged views on the world economy Sunday.

During the discussions at the British Embassy's official residence, both cited high U.S. interest rates as a major factor in trade imbalances among Japan, the United States and European countries, Japanese officials said.

Thatcher, nevertheless, expressed concern over the adverse impact declining U.S. interest rates could have on the dollar's value and on the investment climate in the U.S., they said.

Both praised Rajiv Gandhi, who succeeded his slain mother, expressing confidence in India's new leader, the officials said.

RADIO REBUKES REAGAN REMARKS ABOUT PEACE

SK030740 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1250 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Commentary by Cho Tong-il, commentator of this station's broadcasting committee, entitled: "Warmaniac's Nature Cannot Be Hidden"]

[Text] With the 6 November presidential election day approaching, Reagan, caudillo of the U.S. imperialists, has made quite a number of so-called campaign speeches to win the favor of U.S. voters. Projecting himself as an apostle of peace in these speeches, Reagan as waffled over peace and security in a repulsive manner. In his speech accepting his nomination as a presidential candidate, he said that the greatest task facing us all is to reduce the threat of nuclear war.

Again in a speech delivered at the 39th UN General Assembly session as part of his presidential campaign, Reagan noisily babbled that he would continue to make efforts to promote the great spirit of peace and human dignity and that the United States is interested in defending peace and what not. We cannot but call his babblings a monologue of a shameless person.

Reagan's prattlings about peace are always accompanied by a collateral condition, that is, peace based on superiority of strength. This shows that Reagan's prattlings about peace are nothing but the reverse of his determination for aggression. In fact, Reagan's aggressive nature is evident in his numerous speeches and in the course of executing his policies.

His speech at a plant manufacturing bombers in California can be cited as a case in point. Haranguing over peace and security as he usually does, Reagan, touching on the affairs of the Far East, babbled that he would never withdraw U.S. troops from South Korea. It is clear to everyone that such remarks by Reagan are incompatible with peace. It is a fact recognized by the entire world that the occupation of South Korea by the U.S. imperialists is the chief obstacle standing in the way of the peace and peaceful reunification of Korea, and that it is a constant source of threats to peace and security in the Far East.

Forcing U.S. troops to withdraw from South Korea takes precedence over all other things for the realization of a lasting peace and peaceful reunification in Korea and for guaranteeing security in the Far East. For this very reason, the world's peaceloving people believe that our proposal for tripartite talks, put forth in order to provide a turning point for the peace and peaceful reunification of Korea, is the most realistic and rational proposal and strongly demand that it be realized at an early date. Instead of responding to this, the U.S. imperialists continue to strengthen their policy of turning South Korea into a colony and military base while persistently pursuing the perpetuation of their military occupation of South Korea.

As has already been exposed, not only have the U.S. imperialists turned South Korea into the largest nuclear forward base in the Far East by deploying some 1,000 nuclear weapons there and by even introducing the notorious neutron weapons there, but they are also hatching a plot to deploy there space weapons still in the developmental stage.

Hidden right behind Reagan's shield -- his babblings about peace and security -- is such a danger of war. Reagan's hypocritical nature has been exposed clearly in his advocacy of invasion of Grenada by U.S. troops in October of last year, which was committed despite his repeated calls for a peaceful resolution of Central American problems.

The world unanimously denounced the U.S. invasion of Grenada as the most blatant infringement of a sovereign country and an intolerable violation of existing international law and order by the U.S. imperialists. However, Reagan has openly advocated the Grenada invasion. By so doing, he has exposed what degree his extremely aggressive and bellicose nature and his brutal and tyrannical nature have reached. He has also exposed his own wicked ambition to impede a peaceful resolution of Central American problems and to obliterate through force the struggle of the peoples in this region for freedom and independence.

In fact, the U.S. imperialists are now engaged in a persistent scheme to create another Grenada in Nicaragua and are viciously clinging to a scheme of direct military intervention in order to suppress and obliterate the patriotic armed forces in El Salvador. This has been clearly proven by the exposure of the so-called directives that the U.S. CIA issued to the Somoza remnants for the purpose of instigating a revolt in Nicaragua, and by the shooting down of a U.S. CIA spy plane in the region controlled by the Salvadoran patriotic armed forces.

All these facts show beyond any doubt that the U.S. imperialists are emerging as the despotic stranglers of freedom and independence in the Central American region and as a wicked enemy of the people of this region who aspire for peace and progress. This notwithstanding, Reagan has so fervently babbled about peace (?as part of his campaign). This is nothing but a dirty trick designed to disguise his sordid aggressive nature under the veil of peace and to become the master of the White House once again by deception.

Whatever cunning double-dealing tricks he may cling to, Reagan will never be able to hide his dirty nature as a vicious aggressor and war maniac just as the needle in a haystack cannot be concealed, nor will he be able to avoid the unanimous curse and denunciation of the peaceloving people of the world who love justice.

TRIPARTITE TALKS PROPOSAL DEEMED NECESSARY

SK021151 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0725 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Unattributed talk: "Tripartite Talks Are the Most Realistic Way To Solve the Korean Problem Peacefully"]

[Text] Several months have already passed since a joint meeting of the DPRK Central People's Committee and the SPA Standing Committee put forth a proposal to hold tripartite talks by allowing South Korea also to participate in talks between us and the United States, to sign a peace agreement between us and the United States, and to adopt a declaration of nonaggression between the North and the South.

Our proposal for tripartite talks is a new initiative of very great significance in providing a favorable phase for settling the Korean question peacefully. Our proposal for tripartite talks is an expression of the sincere efforts of our party and the government of the republic to solve the Korean problem peacefully, not by confrontation or war, but by dialogue and negotiation.

Since the day it was first announced, the proposal for tripartite talks has aroused great reaction at home and abroad. Unanimously supporting our proposal, the world's people who treasure peace and justice and unbiased political and social circles have praised it as a realistic and epochal measure to solve the Korean problem peacefully.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: The problem of the reunification of Korea should be solved peacefully through dialogue in conformity with the demands of our people and the aspirations of the world's people.

Our proposal for tripartite talks is the most reasonable method of negotiation to put an end to the tense situation which has long existed in our country and to guarantee an everlasting peace.

The Korean problem was caused by the U.S. imperialists' occupation of South Korea and is one of the central international political issues which was created by the U.S. imperialists' colonial policy of Korean enslavement and which is complex and protracted in its nature.

All the problems created on the Korean peninsula are problems in our relations with the United States. The Korean war was war between us and the United States, and the Armistice Agreement is an agreement signed between us and the United States. For this reason, the settlement of the Korean question cannot be talked about without contact and dialogue between us and the United States. Unless the problems between us and the United States -- which holds substantial power to guarantee peace in Korea -- are solved, peace and peaceful reunification in Korean cannot be guaranteed. This is shown well by past lesson. We have held talks with the South Korean persons in authority and an international conference with countries concerned to settle the Korean problem. However, there has been no success because of the U.S. imperialists' interference maneuvers.

The real rulers of South Korea today are the U.S. imperialists who hold all substantial power, including the prerogative of supreme military command. Also, the U.S. imperialists are the ringleaders who are straining the situation to the extreme by constantly augmenting the armed forces of aggression in South Korea and introducing nuclear weapons there, and by accelerating the fabrication of a U.S. Japanese-South Korean triangular military alliance and preparations for a criminal nuclear war. Therefore, the U.S. imperialists take the inevitable responsibility for guaranteeing peace in Korea and removing the obstacles on the road to the reunification of Korea.

Talks between us and the United States should be held without fail in order to alleviate our country's tense situation which is being aggravated more and more with each passing day, and to provide an eternal peace; and the basic matter of eliminating the U.S. imperialists' aggression against Korea and their interference in international affairs should be settled first.

The settlement of problems between us and the United States is not enough to comprehensively settle the question of peace in Korea. In order to do this, problems with the South Korean authorities should be solved simultaneously. The ring of South Korean rulers, which actively takes part in the U.S. imperialists' strategy toward Asia, is not only leaving the land of South Korea to the U.S. imperialists as their complete colony and forward nuclear base, but is also fanatically kicking up anticommunist and anti-republic rackets, strengthening military collusion with the Japanese reactionaries. For this reason, the South Korean authorities, who are aggravating the tense situation and infringing upon peace in our country, are also in the position of being obliged to come to talks with the United States.

Through the proposal for tripartite talks, we set forth the question of signing a peace agreement between us and the United States and the question of adopting a declaration of nonaggression between the North and the South. This is an important measure making it possible to settle decisively the question of providing preconditions for removing the tense situation and the danger of a new war in our country, and for reunifying the fatherland independently and peacefully.

The conclusion of a peace agreement between us and the United States, replacing the Armistice Agreement, and the U.S. withdrawal of its troops and Armed Forces from South Korea are a basic matter in finding a peaceful solution to the Korean problem.

The Armistice Agreement is, through and through, an agreement on the cessation of war. It is not an agreement which guarantees a consolidated peace. Our proposal for tripartite talks is the most reasonable way to remove the danger of war completely by turning an unstable truce into a consolidated peace in Korea and by forcing the U.S. troops to withdraw from South Korea, opening a bright vista for independent and peaceful reunification.

For a long time, we have repeatedly proposed to the United States the holding of Korea-U.S. talks and the signing of a peace agreement. However, our proposal has not been realized due to the U.S. imperialists' insincere attitude and unjust stand.

The U.S. imperialists have always responded to our peaceful initiatives with the policy of strength and have spurred war preparations, persistently seeking the line of confrontation. The danger of war is becoming a question not for tomorrow, but for today; not a latent question, but a realistic one in our country. The prevailing situation urgently demands that the danger of war in Korea be prevented at the earliest possible date and that peace be maintained and consolidated. This demand can be realized only when an end is put to the abnormal situation in which the U.S. imperialists are militarily in confrontation with us in Korea, tens of thousands of distant miles from their land, and when they respond to our proposal to sign a peace agreement, marking a new beginning in Korea-U.S. relations.

When a peace agreement is signed between us and the United States and the U.S. troops are withdrawn from South Korea, a source threatening the peace in our country and blocking the peaceful reunification of Korea will have been removed and a basic guarantee for peacefully solving the Korean problem will have been provided.

The question of alleviating our country's tense situation and providing preconditions for peaceful reunification will not be settled fully through the signing of a peace agreement between us and the United States and the withdrawal of the U.S. troops from South Korea. If the present situation with the huge Armed Forces of the North and the South confronting each other along the Military Demarcation Line is left as it is, the danger of a clash cannot be completely removed and a consolidated peace cannot be guaranteed.

Therefore, to provide a perfect and eternal peace in our country, a declaration of non-aggression should be adopted between the North and the South with the provision not to use armed force against the other side and to reduce armaments -- this in conjunction with the settlement of problems between us and the United States.

When a peace agreement is signed between us and the United States and a declaration of nonaggression is adopted between the North and the South, the source straining the situation in our country and threatening the security of the country will have been removed, a consolidated peace will come, and a favorable phase for peaceful reunification will open.

When preconditions for independent and peaceful reunification and provided through tripartite talks, the North and the South will be able to hold a sincere dialogue to settle the question of the country's reunification truly on the basis of mutual understanding and trust and in accordance with the three great principles of independence, peaceful reunification, and great national unity elucidated in the 4 July North-South joint communique.

Our proposal for tripartite talks is, indeed, a peaceful program for putting an end to the strained situation which has existed in Korea for a long time, and for removing the danger of war forever, and is a way to national salvation which gives fellow countrymen a bright vista for peaceful reunification.

However, our fair and aboveboard proposal for tripartite talks has thus far not received a proper response from the United States and the South Korean persons in authority. The U.S. imperialists and the ring of South Korean rulers are coming out with unrealistic assertions, such as North-South dialogue, a conference among countries concerned, and the like, turning away from our proposal for tripartite talks. Past lessons and experience confirm that the Korean problem cannot be solved through direct North-South dialogue or a conference among countries concerned.

Nothing can be solved through dialogue with only the South Korean persons in authority as they are not a signatory to the Armistice Agreement and have no real power.

The theory of a conference among countries concerned with which the U.S. imperialists -- the only foreign forces that have occupied half of our country and have aggravated tension -- have come out makes the settlement of problems complicated by involving other countries in the Korean question. The Korean question is a question which we, the United States, and the South Korean persons in authority should settle face to face. There is no need to sit face to face with other countries not directly responsible for our country. Also, in reality there is no country which intends to participate in such talks.

In light of its nature and contents, the Korean question can be settled only through tripartite talks in which we, the United States, and the South Korean persons in authority participate.

If they are truly interested in the peace and reunification of Korea, the U.S. imperialists and the ring of South Korean rulers should correct their wrong stand and attitude and respond to our proposal for tripartite talks without delay.

Today, the peaceful settlement of the Korean question is an urgent national task whose implementation can no longer be postponed and is a demand of the times. A new phase for a peaceful solution to the Korean question should be opened by removing the tense situation and the danger of war in our country through tripartite talks at an early date.

Our people's desire and will for a peaceful solution to the Korean question are firm and unmovable. In the future, we will continue to make all efforts to realize this desire and will. Our people's cause for peace and the peaceful reunification of the fatherland will certainly be victorious.

CHON'S FRONTLINE REMARKS ON WAR DENOUNCED

SK050654 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2220 GMT 4 Nov 84

[NODONG SINMUN 5 November commentary: "Bellicose, Outrageous Language Hurting the Atmosphere of Dialogue"]

[Text] According to a report, traitor Chon Tu-hwan boosted war fever by abruptly showing up at a puppet army base in the central front on 3 November. Spreading the bogus story of southward invasion, he raved that the first 3 days would be crucial in case of a war, and the first day, in particular, would be important. He clamored that strategic measures should be sought, with anti-tank combat as a major target. Darting around with overflowing war fever, he instigated the puppet army to a confrontation of strength with us by raving that the puppet army is superior to us in equipment and capabilities, in contrast to the propaganda of the past, which held that our military strength is superior to theirs.

TEXT Such instigation of war by puppet Chon Tu-hwan is a dangerous act aimed at deliberately aggravating the situation, and shows that the frenzy of a war of northward invasion has now reached an extremely dangerous stage. It also shows the anti-national nature of the Chon Tu-hwan ring, which opposes the unity of the nation and the peaceful reunification of the country, and seeks only confrontation and war.

The Chon Tu-hwan ring has continued to pretend that it is interested in the unity of the nation and the peaceful settlement of the reunification question, while babbling about dialogue and reunification. However, the act of the puppet traitor instigating a confrontation of strength when inspecting the front line cannot be compatible with the unity of the nation and the peaceful reunification about which he himself raved.

For dialogue, first of all, a proper atmosphere must be created. If the persons in authority in South Korea desire to hold dialogue with us by adopting a proper attitude, they must halt the noisy confrontation rackets against us.

Dialogue is intended to achieve collaboration and exchanges between the North and the South and to accelerate the fatherland's reunification. Accordingly, the war rackets against the opposite party to dialogue and the instigation of North-South confrontation are against dialogue.

The South Korean puppets have no desire to seek dialogue and improve North-South relations. They are only watching for a chance to realize the wild ambition for northward invasion. This is precisely the reason why they have drastically augmented their Armed Forces and bolstered their equipment, while increasing the danger of war by urging consolidation of combat capabilities and readiness for war on the pretext of preventing war. Moreover, they have staged extensive antirepublic rackets by repeatedly concocting false spy incidents, and have staged war exercises in a complete combat situation by mobilizing regular and irregular troops almost every day. This type of war commotions can only be regarded as a deliberate and premeditated act to hamper dialogue by running counter to the nation's desire for peaceful reunification and aggravating the situation through a policy of anticommunist confrontation.

At a time when the North and the South will make new contacts for collaboration and exchanges -- and the whole nation's interest has now concentrated on this -- the puppet traitor himself, after continuing war commotions as a daily routine, openly instigated confrontation of strength during an inspection of the frontline area. This is an intolerable antinational crime.

The Chon Tu-hwan ring's instigation of war during a sudden inspection of the frontline area is also related to its uncomfortable internal situation. At present, South Korean youths, students, and people of all strata are persistently struggling against the puppets, calling for the overthrow of the fascist dictatorship. Because of this, the crisis of the puppets' rule is deepening. Thus, the fascist Chon Tu-hwan clique is scheming to strangle their antigovernment struggle by diverting the people's attention elsewhere and by creating a terror-stricken atmosphere in South Korean society through the reckless instigation of war.

The policy of confrontation is a worn-out trick with which the former dictator persisted in order to perpetuate division. The persons in authority in South Korea are continuing to follow the worn-out trick of the former dictator while saying that they will improve North-South relations and seek collaboration and exchange through dialogue with us. This is a very improper act. Moreover, the South Korean persons in authority said that they will no longer seek antagonism and confrontation while responding to dialogue and negotiations with us.

Accordingly, isn't it the time for them to abandon the policy of confrontation? The South Korean persons in authority must do something helpful for North-South contact and create an atmosphere favorable to the realization of dialogue instead of instigating North-South confrontation.

All people in the North and the South are now keenly watching the improper act of the South Korean puppets.

SOUTH 'CONFRONTATIONAL CONSCIOUSNESS' DISCUSSED

SK050424 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2147 GMT 4 Nov 84

[NODONG SINMUN 5 November commentary: "Confrontation and Dialogue Are Incompatible"]

[Text] Improving and developing North-South relations is an urgent problem that requires a solution. The breakthrough opened between the North and the South in the wake of the delivery of our relief goods to the South Korean flood victims has made this problem a realistic task whose solution should never be postponed for even a moment. The expression of our standpoint on realization of a broad magnitude of collaboration and exchanges between the North and the South in various fields, including the economy -- a measure taken to improve and develop relations between the North and the South -- along with the realization of the relief measure reflects such a demand. As a result, North-South economic talks and contacts between the representatives of the Red Cross organizations of the North and the South are scheduled to be held at Panmunjom in mid-November.

Such a thing is worth welcoming, as it is an affirmative development of situation that opens a bright prospect for improvement in relations between the North and the South. In the hope that these scheduled contacts and the ones that have already been made will lead to a realization of a broad magnitude of collaboration and exchanges between the North and the South, and eventually to the work of restoring the severed national ties, and accelerate national reunification, we are actively making efforts for their realization.

Nevertheless, unusual situations dampening the mood of negotiations, which have been created after various turns and twists, are being developed in South Korea in succession. Government-sponsored rallies of all sorts fanning hostility to us are being held repeatedly in South Korea and anticommunist and anti-Republic propaganda transmitted via broadcasts and publications is being intensified on an unprecedented scale.

A few days after it sent a letter to our side, the South side staged a government-sponsored function in connection with the Anticommunist League. The person in authority himself, coming before the meeting, stressed the strengthened ideological struggle with us, and then fanned North-South confrontation by calling on everybody to become anticommunist personnel and to lead the anticommunist struggle.

Prior to this, he created a war phobia in Kwachon, Kyonggi Province, saying that Seoul faces threats to its right to existence, since it is within the effective range of guns from the North, and stressing a strengthened posture of combat readiness.

Amid the North-South confrontation that is being fanned, war exercises of all kinds are being repeatedly staged in South Korea. Babbling about annihilation in the initial stage of war, punishment, or destruction, the persons in authority in South Korea did not try to conceal that these war exercises were actions of military operation against us. All these are an open expression of their hostility toward us.

In the letter sent to our side, the South side suggested that the North and the South stop acts of confrontation and hostility and that the North and the South should join forces, transcending ideologies and systems. As such, the South side heaped beautiful words on us on the one hand, while fanning North-South confrontation on the other, aggravating the situation by kicking off war exercises.

As has been observed, the South side is splitting up the nation by uttering two different things. How can anybody believe its saying that the North and the South should join forces?

One must have a correct approach to dialogue. The approach that the South clings to is not for dialogue but for confrontation. The South side's confrontational approach is evident in the fact that, after sending a letter to us, it has fabricated seven spy incidents and then used them as excuses for anticommunism.

The South side is slandering us, saying that we instigated and pulled the wires behind the scenes with regard to the campus unrest and social chaos by infiltrating spies onto the campuses. The students' struggle and social chaos occurring in South Korea have not been instigated or controlled by somebody, but are a product of the anti-popular rules being practiced in South Korea.

How can anybody say that the antifascist struggle for democratization repeatedly staged in South Korea by the youths, students, and people of all walks of life since the Kwangju popular uprising and the chaos of all kinds created by such struggles, not to mention the 19 April popular uprising and the resistance struggles staged in Pusan and Masan that destroyed all the previous South Korean dictators, were instigated or controlled by somebody?

It is outrageous that those who are culpable should fan a confrontational consciousness by openly provoking us who have nothing to do with these struggles.

They are clamoring about the nonexistent threat of southward invasion to incite antagonism against us among the South Korean people. Such clamors were also made at the security report meetings which are held every day in various places in South Korea.

The threat of southward invasion has been preposterous, fabricated propaganda which the successive rulers of South Korea have not been able to corroborate at all, although they have persistently repeated it for 30-odd years, since the war. We have no intention of imposing our ideology and system on South Korea. Our consistent stand and policy are to realize the country's reunification peacefully through dialogue and negotiations, leaving intact the two existing systems -- the one in the North and the one in the South.

Even at a time when North-South dialogue is imminent, one [side] is inciting a sense of confrontation by putting forth and publicizing the theory of southward invasion, whose falsehood has been fully revealed. This is an antinational act aimed at opposing national unity and fixing division.

Confrontation and dialogue cannot be compatible. The South Korean side's hostile action against us shows that, although it is saying with words that it wants dialogue with us, it, in actuality, does not welcome dialogue and is pursuing confrontation, as always.

Frankly speaking, North-South relations are continuously worsening because the South Korean side has been adopting an anachronistic anticommunist and confrontational line while we have been consistently calling for national harmony and unity to restore the unity of the homogeneous nation, transcending differences in ideologies and systems.

11.9 The South Korean side branded even our humanitarian relief measure a false peace offensive. It has incited anticommunist confrontation, clamoring that there is an attempt for southward advance behind the relief measure.

6 If the South Korean side has the intention of stopping antagonism and confrontation and agreeing to concerted efforts between the South and the North, it ought to show its sincerity with actions.

But, even since the South Korean side agreed to have contacts with us, its anticommunist confrontation stance has not changed. The line of confrontation, which will only destroy the national harmony and unity, incite antagonism within the nation, and aggravate tensions cannot be supported by anyone.

12 People demand unity between the North and the South, not confrontation between them. Under the conditions in which the South side is continuing to pursue the line of confrontation, as it is doing at present, one cannot expect good results even if the North and the South sit face to face with each other.

12 If the South Korean side sincerely desires dialogue, it should give up the stance of confrontation and sit face to face with us with truthfulness. Although it is said that the ideologies and systems in the North and the South are different from each other, one can easily improve and develop North-South relations if one makes an effort to find things in common while putting aside points of difference for the common interests of the nation.

52 If dialogue is opened and collaboration and exchanges are realized in various fields between the North and the South, this will not be bad for South Korea itself, either.

30 Pursuing the anticommunist line of confrontation and aggravating tensions on the Korean peninsula will not yield any profits for South Korea. It is the unanimous aspiration and demand of the times and the nation to end the situation of antagonism and confrontation between the North and the South of Korea, to achieve national harmony and unity, and, furthermore, to achieve the country's peaceful reunification. The South Korean side should bid farewell to the biased anticommunist line of confrontation and turn out on the road of seeking national harmony and unity.

36 The success of future dialogue depends totally upon the attitude of the South Korean side. People will determine, not by the South side's words but by its actual deeds, whether the South side really wants to stop antagonism and confrontation and to make concerted efforts with us.

PAPER DECRIES SERVICES FOR ANTICOMMUNIST VICTIMS

SK041212 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2155 GMT 3 Nov 84

[NODONG SINMUN 4 November Commentary "Anticommunist Fanatic's Confrontational Rackets"]

[Text] The puppets recently held so-called joint services for anticommunist victims in the cities and provinces of South Korea, including Seoul. At these services, the puppets recited anticommunist invocations in their so-called memorial addresses and held anticommunist races whose winners were given prizes. This is something only anticommunist fanatics pursuing North-South confrontation can do.

A good opportunity for national unity is being promoted between the peoples of the North and the South in the wake of our offer of relief goods for the South Korean flood victims and, in particular, aspirations for independence, democracy, and reunification are being heightened drastically among the South Korean people. It is only the puppets who are trying to go against this strong national tide. The Chon Tu-hwan ring arranges anticommunist functions against us daily, preaching ideological struggle against somebody and repeatedly making hostile and absurd remarks, such as "counterattack" and "annihilation." In recent days alone, they have made the situation more tense by shooting off firearms almost every 3 days as they did in the "Ssangyang-84" war exercise.

This is a deliberate act designed to stop the aspirations for democracy and reunification which are growing bigger and bigger everyday and to mar the atmosphere of North-South dialogue. The puppet clique reveals its true colors as a traitor by paying lip-service to dialogue, opposing improved relations between the North and the South and reunification of the fatherland, and pursuing only confrontation and division. Those who pursued anticommunist confrontation in the past by going against the aspiration of the nation were without exception buried in history after facing the people's resistance. If the Chon Tu-hwan ring does not want to repeat the same shameful blunders of previous anticommunist fanatics, including Syngman Rhee and Pak Chong-hui, it should stop its criminal anticommunist rackets.

SOVIET PAPER CITED ON PROBLEMS OF '88 OLYMPIAD

SK030407 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0354 GMT 3 Nov 84

[Text] Moscow November 1 (KCNA) -- The Soviet paper IZVESTIYA October 31 carried an article titled "Olympic Problems Await Solution" by A. Yevtushenko, Soviet merited instructor, world and Olympic title holder, instructor of the Soviet handball selection and corresponding member of the Academy of Educational Science. Declaring that the Reagan administration was to blame for the boycott of the Los Angeles Olympiad by the sportsmen of the Soviet Union and a number of other countries, the paper says the United States crudely violated the Olympic Charter.

Pointing to the fact that Seoul of South Korea was unjustly designated as the venue of the 24th Olympiad, the paper says: Can the sports gala, a festival of joy and friendship, youth and peace, be held in a place where dictatorship holds sway and unrest continues? Who can vouch that the games will not be organised from the political stand as far as the 1988 Summer Olympiad concerned?

Exposing the attempts of the U.S. TV corporations to monopolise the right to relay the spot reports from Seoul, the paper continues: To cap it all, the American millionaires are running to an extreme in their shamelessness. Dictating their terms to the Seoul Olympic Organising Committee, they attempt to revise the undecided rules of games to please their tastes and have the games started in early morning so they may be watched at convenient time in Americas.

Urging the International Olympic Committee not to delay the transfer of the venue of the 24th Olympiad slated in 1988 from Seoul to another place, the paper says: The fate of the world Olympic movement gives rise to a serious concern of the public circles today. So, what is important today is not to confine ourselves to shouting loudly that a danger hangs over the Olympic movement. It is high time concrete and wise measures were taken to preserve the idea of Olympiad, in other words, the idea of peace, friendship and mutual respect, on our planet.

In concluding the paper stresses the hope and conviction that the sound thinking will prevail as regards the problem of the venue of the 1988 Olympic Games.

SOVIET-KOREAN ACTIVITIES MARK USSR REVOLUTION

Soviet Book Show

SK020402 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0343 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] Pyongyang November 2 (KCNA) -- A ten-day show of Soviet books was opened at the Grand People's Study House on November 1 to mark the 67th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

Placed in the exhibition hall was a photograph of Comrade Kim Il-song meeting with Comrade K.U. Chernenko, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

Present at the opening ceremony were Chon Chu-nam, president of the Grand People's Study House; Kim Chong-hyok, vice-director of the Press Guidance Bureau; O Kil-pang, vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean-Soviet Friendship Society; and other officials concerned, and working people in the city. N.M. Shubnikov, Soviet ambassador to Korea, and his embassy officials were also present.

Kim Chong-hyok and N.M. Shubnikov made speeches there. The attendants saw Soviet books of social science, natural science and other fields on display.

Friendship Concert

SK040921 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0908 GMT 4 Nov 84

[Text] Pyongyang November 4 (KCNA) -- A Korean-Soviet friendship concert opened on November 1 at the Central House of Workers on the occasion of the 67th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. The concert is going on in an atmosphere overflowing with the feelings of traditional friendship and solidarity between the Korean and Soviet peoples, which is growing in strength and developing day by day.

Invited to the friendship concert on November 3 were Soviet Ambassador to Korea N.M. Shubnikov and his embassy officials and Soviet delegations and guests staying in Korea. The audience also included Chang Chol, vice-minister of culture and art; O Mun-han, vice-chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries; O Kil-pang, vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean-Soviet Friendship Society; and officials concerned.

Artists in Pyongyang put on stage a colorful program of Korean and Soviet music. The Soviet guests presented a basket of flowers to the performers, congratulating them on their successful performance. The friendship concert will continue till November 5.

Art Show Opens

SK040854 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0842 GMT 4 Nov 84

[Text] Pyongyang November 4 (KCNA) -- A Soviet art show opened at the Korean art gallery on November 3 on the occasion of the 67th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution. Its opening ceremony was attended by Vice-Minister of Culture and Art Chang Chol and other officials concerned and working people in the city.

Present on invitation were Soviet Ambassador to Korea N.M. Shubnikov and his embassy officials and Soviet guests staying in Korea. Chang Chol and N.M. Shubnikov made speeches.

The attendants saw fine art works showing successes made by the Soviet people in the political, economic, educational and cultural fields in the past period under the leadership of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

KIM IL-SONG RECEIVES PARTY DELEGATION FROM GDR

SK050111 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2304 GMT 4 Nov 84

[Text] Pyongyang November 5 (KCNA) -- The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song received the first secretary of the Dresden County Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and his entourage on November 4. Present on the occasion were Comrade Hans Modrow, member of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and first secretary of the Dresden County party committee, who is on a visit to our country at the invitation of Comrade Kim Il-song and his entourage.

Present there were Comrade Kye Ung-tae, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and chief secretary of the South Pyongan provincial party committee, and Kwon Min-chun, vice-director of a department of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea. Karl-Heinz Kern, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the German Democratic Republic to our country, was also on hand.

Comrade Kim Il-song had a talk with the guests in a cordial and friendly atmosphere. The guests presented a gift to him. He gave gifts to them. He arranged a luncheon for the guests.

GOVERNMENT TRADE DELEGATION LEAVES FOR POLAND

SK050124 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2307 GMT 4 Nov 84

[Text] Pyongyang November 5 (KCNA) -- A DPRK Government trade delegation headed by Han Su-kil, vice-minister of foreign trade, left Pyongyang on November 3 by plane for a visit to Poland.

It was seen off at the airport by Vice-Minister of Foreign Trade Cho Song-pom and Commercial Councillor of the Polish Embassy in Pyongyang Jan Stokowiec.

TRADE GROUP RETURNS FROM ROMANIA, ALBANIA

SK022351 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2318 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] Pyongyang November 3 (KCNA) -- The Korean Government trade delegation headed by Vice-Minister of Foreign Trade Pang Tae-yul returned home on November 2 by air after visiting Romania and Albania.

It was met at the airport by Vice-Minister of Foreign Trade Han Su-kil, Romanian Ambassador to Korea Constantin Iftodi, and Charge d'Affaires ad interim of the Albanian Embassy in Pyongyang Hysen Xhafellar.

KIM YONG-NAM MEETS DELEGATION FROM AFGHANISTAN

SK050142 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2308 GMT 4 Nov 84

[Text] Pyongyang November 5 (KCNA) -- Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam on November 4 met and had a friendly conversation with the Foreign Ministry friendship delegation of Afghanistan headed by Sarwar Ureshi, member of the Revolutionary Council of Afghanistan and vice-minister of foreign affairs, which paid a courtesy call on him.

CHINESE FRIENDSHIP DELEGATION DEPARTS 3 NOV

SK040842 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0833 GMT 4 Nov 84

[Text] Pyongyang November 4 (KCNA) -- The Chinese people's friendship delegation headed by Zheng Weishan, acting commander of the 20th Corps of the former Chinese People's Volunteers and commander of the Lanzhou Military District of the Chinese People's Liberation Army, left here for home on November 3 by train.

It was seen off at Pyongyang railway station by Lt. General of the Korean People's Army Pak Chung-kuk, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Kim Chae-sok, vice-chairman of the Committee for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries and Vice-Chairman of the Central Committee of the Korea-China Friendship Association O Mun-han, [and] Vice-Chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal People's Committee Choe Un-Pong.

Chinese Ambassador to Korea Zong Kewen and chief of the Liaison Office of the Chinese People's Volunteers to the Military Armistice Commission Tang Daokai were also present to see off the delegation.

PAK SONG-CHOL MEETS KOREAN YOUTHS FROM JAPAN

SK022333 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2313 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] Pyongyang November 3 (KCNA) -- Vice-President Pak Song-chol on November 2 met and had a conversation in an atmosphere overflowing with compatriotic feelings with the group of Korean youth in Japan visiting the socialist homeland to express thanks headed by Kim Hak-su, chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the League of Korean Youth in Japan. Kim Chu-yong, director of the General Bureau of Overseas Compatriotic Affairs, was on hand.

PAK SONG-CHOL LEADS GROUP TO GANDHI FUNERAL

SK022307 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2302 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] Pyongyang November 3 (KCNA) -- A party and government delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea headed by Comrade Pak Song-chol, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and vice-president of the DPRK, left Pyongyang by air to attend the funeral of Indira Gandhi, president of the Indian National Congress (I) and prime minister of the Republic of India.

It was seen off at the airport by Comrade Kang Song-san, premier of the Administration Council; Comrade Kim Yong-nam, vice-premier and foreign minister; Kim Chae-pong, vice-director of a department of the Central Committee of the Worker's Party of Korea; Kang Sok-chu, vice-minister of foreign affairs; and other personages concerned. S.S. Pradhan, charge d'affaires ad interim of the Indian Embassy in Pyongyang, was also present to see off the delegation.

Kim Sends Wreath

SK050250 Pyongyang KCNA In English 2310 GMT 4 Nov 84

[Text] New Delhi November 3 (KCNA) -- Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, sent a wreath to the bier of Indira Gandhi, president of the Indian National Congress (I) and prime minister of the Republic of India.

Head of the DPRK party and government delegation Comrade Pak Song-chol, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and vice-president of the DPRK, who had carried the wreath sent by President Kim Il-song from Pyongyang, laid it before the bier of the deceased in the Nehru Museum on the morning of November 3. Present there were the members of the DPRK party and government delegation and the DPRK ambassador to India.

After laying the wreath, they observed a moment's silence in memory of the deceased. Then, Comrade Pak Song-chol signed the mourners' book. The following entry was made in the book:

We express deep condolences on the demise of Her Excellency Indira Gandhi, an outstanding state leader of India and prominent political figure of the Third World. Although Her Excellency Indira Gandhi passed away, her contributions made to the development and prosperity of India, to the expansion and development of the Non-aligned Movement, to defense of peace in Asia and the world and to the development of the friendly relations between Korea and India will remain long.

Han Tok-su Message

SK021530 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1513 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] Tokyo November 2 (KNS-KCNA) -- Han Tok-su, chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon), sent a message of condolence on November 1 to Giani Zail Singh, president of the Republic of India.

Upon hearing the sad news that Indira Gandhi, prime minister of the Republic of India, suddenly passed away, he expressed deep condolences in the message on behalf of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan and the entire Korean nationals in Japan to the president, the Indian people and the bereaved family of the deceased.

Kim Yong-nam Sends Condolences

SK030852 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0822 GMT 3 Nov 84

[Text] Pyongyang November 3 (KCNA) -- Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam sent a message of condolence to G. Parthasarthy, chairman of the Policy Planning Committee of the Indian Ministry for External Affairs.

The message says that upon hearing the sad news of the sudden death of Her Excellency Indira Gandhi, he expresses deep condolences to the chairman and to the bereaved family of the deceased.

It expresses the hope that the chairman will overcome the grief with his will power and achieve success in the work for the sovereignty of the country.

PAK SONG-CHOL SEES OFF GHANAIAI GOVERNMENT GROUP

SK022337 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2315 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] Pyongyang November 3 (KCNA) -- The government delegation of the Republic of Ghana headed by Kojo Tsikata, special advisor to the provisional National Defense Council of the Republic of Ghana, left here for home on November 2 by air after its official goodwill visit to Korea. Seeing off the delegation at the airport were Vice-President Pak Song-chol, Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Kim Yong-sop, Vice-Minister of Public Security Hwang Chin-taek and Chinese Ambassador to Korea Zong Kewen.

Leader Sends Gift

SK021528 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1511 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] Pyongyang November 2 (KCNA) -- A gift came to Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, from His Excellency Jerry John Rawlings, chairman of the provisional National Defence Council of the Republic of Ghana.

Kojo Tsikata, special advisor to the provisional National Defence Council and head of the visiting Ghanaian government delegation, conveyed the gift to an official concerned on November 1.

GROUP HOLDS TALKS WITH TANZANIAN OFFICIALS

SK031027 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1012 GMT 3 Nov 84

[Text] Pyongyang November 3 (KCNA) -- Talks were held between the DPRK government delegation headed by Vice-President Yi Chong-ok and the government delegation of the United Republic of Tanzania headed by Vice-President Ali Hassan Mwinyi on October 30 in Dar es Salaam.

Present there on our side were the members of the delegation and the Korean ambassador to Tanzania and on the opposite side were the minister of economy and planning, the minister of commerce and industry of Zanzibar, the minister of water conservancy and construction of Zanzibar, and other officials concerned. The talks proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

President Receives Yi

SK030846 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0813 GMT 3 Nov 84

[Text] Pyongyang November 3 (KCNA) -- President of the United Republic of Tanzania Julius K. Nyerere on October 31 met the DPRK government delegation headed by Vice-President Yi Chong-ok. The head of the delegation conveyed cordial greetings of President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il to President Nyerere.

The president expressed deep thanks for this and asked the head of the delegation to convey his wholehearted wishes for longevity to President Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il. Warmly welcoming the delegation's visit to Tanzania, he showed his satisfaction over the favorably developing relations of friendship and cooperation between Tanzania and Korea. The talk proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

PDRY LEADER MEETS DPRK GOVERNMENT DELEGATION

SK040909 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0900 GMT 4 Nov 84

[Text] Pyongyang November 4 (KCNA) -- 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the Central Committee of Yemen Socialist Party, and chairman of the Presidium of the People's Supreme Council of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen [PDRY] and chairman of the Council of Ministers, met with the government delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea headed by Vice-President Yi Chong-ok on November 1.

The head of the delegation conveyed cordial regards of the great leader President Kim Il-song and dear Comrade Kim Chong-il to the chairman of the Presidium.

The chairman expressed deep thanks for this and asked the head of the delegation to convey his heartfelt greetings to President Kim Il-song and to Comrade Kim Chong-il. He wholeheartedly wished the great leader and the dear leader good health and a long life.

He expressed satisfaction over his Korean visit in October. He said: During my visit I witnessed the shining successes and changes made by the Korean people. This is wholly attributable to the wise leadership of the great leader and the dear leader.

The conversation proceeded in a friendly atmosphere. The chairman arranged a luncheon for the Korean government delegation.

The delegation arrived in Aden on November 1.

CHONG CHUN-KI HEADS DELEGATION IN ALGERIA

SK031021 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1010 GMT 3 Nov 84

[Text] El Djazira November 1 (KCNA) -- Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Algerian Democratic and People's Republic, on October 31 met with the Korean government delegation headed by Vice-Premier Chong Chon-ki on a visit to Algeria to attend the celebrations of the 30th anniversary of the start of the revolution in Algeria.

The head of the delegation conveyed cordial regards of President Kim Il-song to the president. The president expressed deep thanks for this and asked the head of the delegation to convey his wholehearted wishes for longevity to President Kim Il-song.

The talk proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

FRENCH SOCIALIST, WPK OFFICIALS HOLD TALKS

SK040904 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0858 GMT 4 Nov 84

[Text] Pyongyang November 4 (KCNA) -- Talks were held on November 3 in Pyongyang between Hwang Chang-yop, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, and Marcel Debarge, member of the Executive Bureau and national secretary of the French Socialist Party. Kim Chae-pong, vice-director of a department of the C.C., the WPK, was present.

The talks proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

SEIZING IDEOLOGICAL, MATERIAL FORTRESSES URGED

SK050633 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2138 GMT 3 Nov 84

[NODONG SINMUN 4 November special article: "Seizing Ideological and Material Fortresses Is a Basic, Strategic Goal for Communist Construction"]

[Text] Our party's road of struggle toward socialist and communist construction has been a process of struggle to seize the ideological and material fortresses.

In his teaching at the ninth plenary meeting of the sixth party Central Committee, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song elucidated the principled questions arising in seizing the two fortresses -- ideological and material -- while stressing again the need to seize the two fortresses for communist construction. This is an important guiding principle which makes our people continue to vigorously accelerate socialist and communist construction without bias.

Seizing the ideological and material fortresses is a basic, strategic goal for communist construction. Communism is the highest ideal of humankind. Communist construction is an unfamiliar but great work of pioneering the future. Thus, the basic strategic goal should be correctly elucidated for the victorious realization of the communist cause.

When such a strategic goal is correctly elucidated, one can map out scientific struggle programs, strategies, and tactics and push ahead with socialist and communist construction without bias. The future of communist construction and the fate of people depend upon how such a basic strategic goal is mapped out and realized.

Our people are pioneering, with conviction, the future of communism because the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has elucidated the most correct, basic, strategic goal for communist construction by creating the ideology and theory about seizing the ideological and material fortresses of communism.

In the early days, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song put forth, on the basis of the *chuche* idea, the original ideology and theory that one should surely seize the ideological and material fortresses in order to build communism. This is a great achievement which has contributed to developing the revolutionary theory of the working class and carrying out the socialist and communist cause.

The ideology and theory about seizing the ideological and material fortresses elucidate the basic strategic goal for communist construction because this ideology and this theory most correctly reflect the natural law-governed demands of communist construction and the principle of realizing the demands.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: In order to build communism, one should seize the ideological and material fortresses of communism by remaking the society in a communist-style fashion in all fields -- economic, cultural, ideological, and moral. Communist society is a society entirely modeled on the *chuche* idea -- a society where the independence of the working popular masses is completely realized. In this society, the working popular masses can enjoy independence and creativity in all fields of social life, breaking away from all restraints. People's social life involves various fields -- economic, cultural, ideological, and moral. In the long run, people's social life is comprised of two main fields -- ideological and spiritual life and material life. Thus, only when the independent and creative life of the working popular masses is completely guaranteed in these two fields can the communist society be realized.

Smoothly satisfying the material demands of the popular masses is an important task arising in communist construction. However, satisfying only material demands cannot allow the independent life of the popular masses to be realized completely.

In order to build communism, one should surely stage the struggle to completely realize the independence of the working popular masses -- the struggle to seize the ideological and material fortresses of communism -- in the two main fields of ideological and spiritual life and material life.

Only when one vigorously stages the struggle to seize the ideological and material fortresses can one foster all members of the society as genuine communist-type men and can one highly develop productivity to the extent that uniform communist-style ownership over the means of production can be established and distribution according to demand can be realized. In this way, the independent life of the popular masses can be completely guaranteed in all fields of social life. In this way, one can say that communist society is built.

The struggle to seize the ideological fortress and to seize the material fortress of communist construction are inseparable. When one remodels the working people as community-type men by staging the struggle to seize the ideological fortress, one can achieve endless upsurges in economic construction. Also, when one endlessly improves the material living conditions of the society by staging the struggle to seize the material fortress, one can successfully accelerate the ideological remodeling of people. Thus, one should push ahead with both the struggle to seize the ideological fortress and the struggle to seize the material fortress.

In particular, it is important to give priority to seizing the ideological fortress. This is connected with the fact that the work of indoctrinating and remodeling people is most difficult and complicated work, and the fact that the work of laying the material foundation of communism, too, is work to be done by people.

The principle that should be maintained in communist construction is to push ahead vigorously with the work to lay the material and technological foundations for socialism and communism, giving priority to the work of rallying people around the party while also giving priority to ideological remodeling, and indoctrinating and remodeling people.

The basic, strategic goal of communist construction has been elucidated by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song. This is very significant theoretically and practically. The significance, above all, lies in the fact that a bright prospect for completely realizing the centuries-long desire of the working popular masses to enjoy an independent and creative life has unfolded.

People's centuries-long desire is to enjoy an independent and creative life. To realize this desire, the working popular masses have staged protracted and arduous struggle against the capitalism. The historical experiences of protracted revolutionary struggle and the practical experiences of our revolution show that the aspirations and demands of the popular masses for independence can never be completely realized only through achieving economic liberation.

Because the original ideology and theory about seizing the ideological and material fortresses -- the two fortresses of communism -- has been put forth by the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song, the most straight road, on which people can successfully build socialism and communism with clear-cut goals and principles, was opened. This theory serves as an encouraging banner vigorously advancing the people's struggle for socialist and communist construction because it most correctly reflects the aspirations and demands for independence of the popular masses, and its truth has been substantiated in practical struggle.

Because the basic, strategic goal for communist construction has been elucidated, a basic guiding principle, with which the party of the working class can fulfill to the end its historic mission, has also been provided. The party of the working class has a heavy mission to lead responsibly the fate of the people. There is no more important duty for the party of the working class which grasps sovereignty than to provide endless freedom and happiness to the people by carrying out well the revolution and construction.

Because the basic strategic goal for communist construction has been elucidated by the ideology and theory on seizing the ideological and material fortresses, the party has been able to map out lines and policies centering on completely realizing the independence of the popular masses and to direct all activities to thoroughly realizing the independent life of the people. The justness and vitality of the ideology and theory on seizing the ideological and material fortresses of communism have been fully corroborated through the practice of our revolution.

Since the early days when it was leading the revolution and construction, our party has wisely led the struggle to seize the ideological and material fortresses, regarding that struggle as a basic strategic goal for communist construction. Thus, it has effected a great turn in fostering people as communist-type men and laying the material and technological foundations of socialism and communism. Because the work to revolutionize, working-classize, and communize all members of society has been vigorously carried out under the party's leadership, the ideological and spiritual ethos of our people today has reached a very high stage. All people are living and working in a revolutionary fashion with burning loyalty to the party and the revolution and an indomitable revolutionary spirit, regarding the chuche idea as a firm conviction.

The working people have developed as strong communist revolutionaries; the unity and cohesion of the revolutionary ranks rallying around the party have been firmly and indestructibly consolidated; and the state and social system have been extraordinarily solidified. This is a great victory achieved in the struggle to seize the ideological fortress. At the same time, because the struggle to seize the material fortress has been forcefully advanced, our country has been turned into a developed socialist industrial state in a very short period of time, historically.

The foundation for the self-reliant national economy has been firmly consolidated; the people's material and cultural life has improved; and the gap between urban and rural areas has been further bridged. Thus, our people have reached a high ridge from which they can see the complete victory of socialism nearby. We should achieve a decisive advance in carrying out the cause of modeling the whole society on the chuche idea by brilliantly realizing the programmatic tasks put forth by the sixth party congress, while adhering to and embodying the ideology and theory on seizing the two fortresses of communism -- the ideological and material fortresses -- whose justness and might have been substantiated through practice.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBER KIM MAN-KUM DIES

Obituary Notice

SK022351 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2319 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] Pyongyang November 3 (KCNA) -- The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Central People's Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland published an obituary of Comrade Kim Man-kum on November 2. The obituary says that Comrade Kim Man-kum, member of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, member of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Presidium member of the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland, passed away from illness at the age of 72 at 19 hours on November 2, 1984.

Comrade Kim Man-kum devotedly struggled for socialist construction in the northern half of the republic and the independent and peaceful reunification of the country, upholding the wise leadership of the great leader of our party and our people Comrade Kim Il-song. While active at a local party organisation from right after the liberation of the country, he struggled with a will to mobilise the working people in the building of a new country and energetically worked for the consolidation of the rear and victory in the war during the great fatherland liberation war against the U.S. imperialist aggressors. Holding important posts of the party Central Committee and the Administration Council for many years, he devoted all his energy and wisdom to the implementation of our party's policy of agriculture and made a great contribution to the development of the rural economy and socialist construction of the country. Till the last moments of his life Comrade Kim Man-kum remained unboundedly faithful to the party and the leader, firmly armed with the party's monolithic ideology.

The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Central People's Committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland formed a 31-member funeral committee for the last Comrade Kim Man-kum including Comrades Pak Song-chol and So Yun-sok.

Kim Sends Wreath

SK031610 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1533 GMT 3 Nov 84

[Text] Pyongyang November 3 (ICNA) -- The great leader President Kim Il-song on November 3 sent a wreath to the bier of the late Comrade Kim Man-kum, member of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, member of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Presidium member of the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland, expressing condolences on the death of the latter.

Officials Visit Bier

SK041037 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0904 GMT 4 Nov 84

[Text] Pyongyang November 4 (KCNA) -- On the death of Comrade Kim Man-kum, member of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, member of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Presidium member of the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland, functionaries of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Central People's Committee, the Administration Council, committees and ministries of the Administration Council, central organs, the Central Committee of the Korean Social Democratic Party, the Central Committee of the Chondoist Chongu Party and the Pyongyang municipal party and power bodies on November 3 visited the bier of the deceased in the Sojang Club and expressed condolences. Members of the funeral committee and the family and relatives of the deceased were standing by the bier.

With one moment's solemn silence the mourners honored the memory of the late Comrade Kim Man-kum who remained boundlessly faithful to the party and the leader till the moments of his life, firmly armed with the monolithic ideology of the party, and dedicated himself to the struggle for the socialist construction in the northern half of the republic and for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country upholding the wise leadership of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

PRC GROUP ARRIVES FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS TALKS

SK050525 Seoul YONHAP in English 0522 GMT 5 Nov 84

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 5 (OANA-YONHAP) -- A four-member Chinese delegation, headed by Liu Yuan, deputy director for external affairs of the Ministry of Posts and telecommunications, flew into Seoul Sunday to attend the Third General Assembly and the Eighth Management Committee Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity [APT]. It is the first time that a delegation representing the Chinese Government will attend an international conference in Seoul. South Korea has no diplomatic relations with Communist China.

During the 12-day General Assembly meeting which opened Monday, 77 delegates from the APT's 17 member nations, including host Korea, Australia, Japan and China, as well as 17 representatives from five international organizations will discuss the organization's general policies and budget.

U.S. TRADE FRICTION DISCUSSED AT VIDEO MEETING

SK030959 Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean 3 Nov 84 p 2

[Editorial: "ROK-U.S. Television Roundtable Talk"]

[Text] There are many ways to convey one's opinions on and seek understanding of certain problems. The most effective way is face-to-face dialogue. But, so often we cannot easily have a dialogue because both sides are separated from each other geographically and because there are cumbersome processes in official talks. In view of this, yesterday's video conference, the first between the ROK and the United States, is of great significance.

As has already been reported, this video conference was realized as part of the commemorative projects marking the centennial of the founding of the Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry [KCCI]. The conference was attended by seven representatives of the Korean business circles, including KCCI President Chong Su-chang, and by U.S. Secretary of Commerce Malcolm Baldrige. They discussed pending economic issues between the ROK and the United States. In particular, because of the participation of the top responsible person in charge of U.S. trade policy, it was natural that the focus was on ROK-U.S. trade friction over pending issues.

In fact, we have information -- but not a full understanding of -- the trade friction between the ROK and the United States, including the U.S. import restrictions against the now-pending issue of Korean-made color TV sets. Furthermore, it is difficult for us to take proper countermeasures because we do not have detailed knowledge of the U.S. stand, although we blame U.S. protectionism.

In this sense, the latest video conference is regarded as very useful for us in understanding the United States and making the United States understand us.

During the conference, the Korean side, first of all pointed out that the recent U.S. trade protectionist barriers are evoking apprehension over whether the United States has abandoned the spirit of free trade, adding that the United States, overestimating the Korean economy, is putting harsher restrictions on Korean-made products. Also, the Korean side stressed that its enterprises are thrown into confusion because the U.S. yardstick for filing lawsuits, including such issues as antidumping measures, and relevant regulations are not understood well internationally; moreover, even U.S. lawyers do not understand them well.

Of course, the stand on and view of the United States in Korean economic circles can be conveyed officially through diplomatic channels. But, it is not easy to use diplomatic channels and it is doubtful if the situation of our economic circles would be conveyed to the top responsible man in charge of making policy in the United States if such channels were used. The latest video conference solved the first stage of such doubts and problems.

The United States has similar circumstances. Secretary Malcolm Baldrige also had a good opportunity to explain the U.S. position to Korean citizens, using his own words and gestures. He explained that Korean products are not restricted specifically and that the United States is only trying to prevent unfair business activities.

That day's video conference was simultaneously televised by Korea's Korea Broadcasting Corporation TV 1 and the Biz Net of the United States. Biz Net is a private noncommercial television station operated by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and its programs are televised to all U.S. homes via satellite. Thus, this means that the content of the day's conference was conveyed to all citizens of the ROK and the United States.

In conclusion, through the latest video conference, the citizens of the two countries directly watched the conference and have come to understand the issues causing the recent ROK-U.S. trade friction. Also, our enterprises have moved closer to mapping out relevant countermeasures. Accordingly, even if the subjects of such a conference are not necessarily high-ranking officials of the United States, if possible, we would do well to create frequent opportunities for video conferences to make the ROK understood.

HERALD ON NAKASONE'S REELECTION, SECOND TERM

SK030023 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 3 Nov 84 p 4

[Editorial: "Second Nakasone Cabinet"]

[Text] Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone has set sail on his second term after winning unanimous reelection to the Presidency of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party. He is Japan's first two-term leader since 1972. Nakasone overcame factional haggling by appeasing rivals within the LDP. His new cabinet retains key faces such as Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe and Finance Minister Naboru Takeshita.

No doubt Nakasone owes his reelection to what he achieved during his first term. By acting decisively he earned popular support for his administration of Tokyo's policies at home and abroad. Thus we can expect Nakasone to enjoy even more success in putting his political ideas and plans into action during his second term.

Nakasone has thus far focused his efforts on reforming Japan's administrative, financial and educational systems. Externally, he has endeavored to further solidify ties with the Western alliance in practical terms. Nakasone has bolstered Japan's self-defense capability and sought to increase its political stature to conform with its economic growth.

Underscoring the continuity of his policy, Nakasone said he will continue Japan's pro-West diplomacy and a domestic policy of economic reconstruction. We especially noted his remarks that "maintaining international trust by stabilizing the political situation at home is my primary task."

It goes without saying that winning trust in the international community is prerequisite for a country to ensure its viability over the long term.

The situation in Northeast Asia is likely to evolve rapidly during his second term. Clearly, Tokyo wants to exercise increasing influence in the region. We cannot help being concerned about how outside influences may affect our efforts to establish peace on the Korean peninsula. Tokyo has just decided to lift its sanctions against North Korea. They were imposed following Pyongyang's perpetration of the Rangoon bombing massacre last year. The decision has come at a time when the Pyongyang regime is wooing Japan and other capitalist countries to invest funds and technology in North Korea.

Some even suspect that Tokyo is interested in making the best of such new moves in pursuit of increasing its own influence. Japan, in their eyes, may be inclined to exploit the division of Korea for its own sake. Yet we are inclined to trust Tokyo's oft-repeated pledge that there will be no fundamental change in its basic policy toward Pyongyang. It was only two months ago that President Chon Tu-hwan made his historic trip to Japan, the first-ever official visit by a Korean head of state. Chon's visit was made in an attempt to open a new era between Seoul and Tokyo, neighborly friendship based on mutual trust in the place of the mistrust of the past.

Of course we see no reason to oppose Japan's efforts to help establish peace in Northeast Asia. But our belief is that such efforts should in no way play into the hands of the other side, wittingly or unwittingly. North Korea has of late launched a series of peace gestures. But we are still haunted by the atrocities perpetrated by them, each time behind a smokescreen of smiles. Their unpredictability and absurdity were already well-known worldwide, even before their terrorist bombing in Rangoon.

We are second to none in desiring peace on the Korean peninsula. Thus we are also required to be extra-cautious because any mistake would cost us dearly. We are doing our best to reconcile with North Korea in an earnest yet prudent approach. A direct dialogue is the first step. The stability of the Korean peninsula is vital to the peace and stability of the whole region, without which none can advocate coprosperity.

CHON EXPRESSES GRIEF OVER INDIRA GANDHI'S DEATH

SK010702 Seoul YONHAP in English 0645 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 1 (OANA-YONHAP) -- President Chon Tu-hwan reiterated his "inexpressible grief and anger" over the assassination of Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in brief talks with departing Maldives President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom at Seoul's Kimpo International Airport Thursday. Chon, who on Wednesday sent a message of condolence to Indian President Zail Singh expressing his "extreme shock and grief" over Mrs Gandhi's death, emphasized that violence should be expelled from the earth forever.

Recalling that he could not meet Mrs. Gandhi last year because had to cancel his scheduled visit to India due to the North Korean terrorist bomb attack on his delegation in Rangoon, Burma, Chon said that it is deeply regrettable that Mrs Gandhi, who played a great role for world peace, died.

Gayoom, who left here winding up a four-day official visit, said that in life Mrs. Gandhi was "our great friend." The Maldives president had said in a press conference Wednesday that he was "shocked and grieved" to learn of the death of Mrs. Gandhi. Meanwhile, newspapers across the nation splashed banner headlines on their front pages Thursday with reports on the assassination.

The Foreign Ministry issued a statement immediately after Mrs. Gandhi's death saying it was a great shock to learn that she was killed in an "atrocious act of terrorism."

The government is planning to send a condolence delegation, headed by a minister or higher level official, to the state funeral. Officials at the Indian Embassy here, including Ambassador Arundhati Ghose, set up an altar and received mourners with their national flag hoisted to half-mast.

Foreign Minister Yi Won-kyong and more than 10 ambassadors stationed in Seoul, including American Richard Walker, Britain J.N.T. Spreckley, Frenchman Andre Baeyens and Australian Lance Joseph, visited the altar, where the wreaths sent by President Chon and Prime Minister Chin Ui-chong were laid. More than 10 members of the Indian Residents' Association in Seoul also visited the altar to pay tribute. Embassy officials said they will receive mourners until Saturday.

No Policy Change

SK010705 Seoul YONHAP in English 0652 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 1 (OANA-YONHAP) -- No conspicuous change is likely to be made in the existing friendly relations between South Korea and India despite the assassination of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Thursday. The spokesman said he does not expect a radical change in India's foreign policy in light of the mature "democratic consciousness" of the Indian people and its rulers.

The official said that India's new prime minister, Rajiv Gandhi, son of Mrs. Gandhi, will continue to pursue his mother's policies and that India will remain the leader of nonaligned nations. Another official said that the South Korean Government should increase its effort to promote cooperation with India. India maintains diplomatic relations both with South and North Korea.

ASSEMBLYMAN CONVEYS CONDOLENCES TO RAJIV GANDHI

SK050305 Seoul YONHAP in English 0148 GMT 5 Nov 84

[Text] New Delhi, Nov. 4 (OANA-YONHAP) -- Korean National Assembly speaker Chae Mun-sik, now here to attend the funeral service for the late Indira Gandhi, conveyed President Chon Tu-hwan's condolences Sunday to her son, Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, on behalf of all Korean people. The condolences was made in an official meeting for foreign dignitaries with Indian President Zail Singh and the newly-appointed Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

Meanwhile, Rajiv said: "Thank you very much for your people's condolences, and give my cordial regards to your people."

Later in the day, Chae met with Balram Jakhar, speaker of the House of Commons, at the latter's office. In the meeting, Jakhar expressed his gratitude to Chae for attending the funeral service, noting that while he was staying in Seoul to attend the General Assembly of the International Parliamentarian's Union last year, the Rangoon bomb attack occurred. He said he shared his sorrow with the Korean people. He also said that because the two nations are friendly toward each other, there will be only advance in future relations.

REESTABLISHED 'STUDENT DAY' CELEBRATED 3 Nov

SK030313 Seoul YONHAP in English 0301 GMT 3 Nov 84

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 3 (YONHAP) -- South Korea observed the first "student day" Saturday since the national day was revived in July, 11 years after its abolition by the government of the late President Pak Chong-hui. Schools across the nation as well as the Education Ministry and provincial educational boards held ceremonies in honor of students.

In a statement issued on the occasion, Education Minister Kwon I-hyok said the Korean students have a "brilliant" tradition in defending the nation whenever it was in difficult straits. Kwon said that an ever-increasing volume of knowledge in this rapidly changing society requires students to engage in studies more sincerely and that the "cold reality of national division and confrontation" requires special values and attitudes from the students.

The student day was first inaugurated in 1953 to commemorate the student uprising against Japanese colonial rule (1910-45) in 1929 at the southern provincial city of Kwangju. In the 1929 uprising, more than 54,000 students were arrested by the Japanese colonial police, and over 3,500 students were ousted from their schools.

Since then, Korean students have been a major force in the nation's independence movement against Japanese colonial rule and during the 1950-53 Korean war, they participated as volunteer soldiers. It was also the students that toppled the authoritarian regime of the then President Syngman Rhee in 1960.

It was six months after the late President Pak Chong-hui proclaimed the "Yusin (revitalizing reforms)" in October 1972 that the student day was removed from Korea's calendar.

In a special National Assembly session in June of this year, the ruling Democratic Justice Party and the leading opposition Democratic Korea Party jointly moved to revive the day.

'Students Day' Demonstrations

SK040036 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 4 Nov 84 p 8

[Text] Student representatives of 18 universities and colleges organized a "National Student Council for Democracy" in a rally held at Yonsei University on the Students Day yesterday.

The afternoon meeting, followed by sporadic demonstrations and an eventual clash with riot police, was participated in by some 700 students. Of the 18 schools 11 are in Seoul, including Seoul National, Korea and Yonsei Universities.

The participants elected Yi Chong-wu, 22, leader of the Seoul National University Student body, as its chairman. Yi claimed that "a large number" of students were unable to attend the rally because riot police controlled entry into the campus formerly in the morning. He disclosed that students will meet again at 2 p.m. at Yonsei tomorrow for a rally.

Following the meeting at around 4:40 p.m., the students attempted to march out of the campus for a street demonstration, but they were blocked by columns of riot police outside the main gate. They chanted slogans calling for the abolition of the basic press law, some "evil" provisions of the labor law and the increase in the price at which the government buys rice from farmers.

The students threw stones toward the police armed with protective shields and tear gas spray machines. Yonsei University did not conduct lessons yesterday in anticipation of disturbances.

Earlier in the day, students had separate Students Day ceremonies at their respective campuses. At Seoul National University, some 700 students adopted "a declaration of democracy" in a rally held at 12:40 p.m. Similar ceremonies were held at the campuses of Korea, Sogang, Songgyungwan, Konguk Universities and the Hanguk University of Foreign Studies.

DKP FORMS COMMITTEE TO PROBE LABOR UNION RALLIES

SK030053 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 3 Nov 84 p 8

[Text] The main opposition Democratic Korea Party [DKP] organized a special team to probe the working condition at the Daewu Apparel Co. following the firm's woman laborers' sit-in at the party headquarters yesterday.

The team members, Reps. Kim Pyong-o, Kim Chan-wu, and Chong Chung-hun will shortly visit the company plant in the Kuro Industrial Complex to urge the employer not to take any retaliatory measures against the protesting workers.

Rep. Yi Tae-ku, a vice president of the party, told the 50 woman workers that the DKP will do its utmost to protect the three labor rights (to form unions, engage in collective bargaining and go on strike).

Persuading them to return to their working place, Yi said that the DKP would soon start a thorough inquiry of the labor disputes that have taken place in the Chonggye Garment Workers Union, Hyupjin Co., and Daewu Apparel.

MINISTRY NOTES STOCKPILING IN OIL REFINERIES

SK030553 Seoul YONHAP in English 0545 GMT 3 Nov 84

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 3 (OANA-YONHAP) South Korea's oil refineries are suffering from stockpiled inventories, which have soared by up to more than 50 percent from the levels a year ago, the Energy and Resources Ministry said Friday.

In a report on the current situation of the local refining industry, the ministry said that as of Oct. 20 an aggregate inventory of oil products kept by the nation's five refiners so far this year stood at 12 million barrels, up 16.9 percent vs. the same period in 1983. The figure is equivalent to the country's 22-day use of oil products. The refineries' aggregate inventory of crude oil, however, jumped up a staggering 51.4 percent from a year earlier to 14.9 million barrels, or the nation's 28-day use, the report said. The inventory surge stemmed mainly from the government's tightened measure on refineries' excess stocks the government earlier this year ordered them to expand their reserves as part of the effort to secure a stable supply of crude oil and oil products for possible emergencies.

Meanwhile, Korea imported 143.4 million barrels of crude oil from abroad during the first nine months of this year, or 76 percent of the year's target, the report showed. The figure was up 17.3 percent in volume, or 13.3 percent in value, vs. the corresponding period last year.

The report also said that during the same period the nation's crude oil imports from international spot markets in particular rose by 27.1 percent from the same period in 1983.

GOVERNMENT TO LIFT OIL RESERVE OBLIGATION

SK050340 Seoul YONHAP in English 0308 GMT 5 Nov 84

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 5 (OANA-YONHAP) -- The South Korean Government plans to lift a 26-day oil reserve obligation it had imposed about four months ago on the nation's five oil refineries in the wake of the escalated Iran-Iraq war.

A ranking official of the Energy and Resources Ministry said Saturday that the government also intends to remove the 20 percent ceiling on spot market crudes in those refineries' total oil imports.

The official pointed out that sufficient oil reserves have been secured by non-oil exporting nations like Korea and that the move of OPEC (Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries) to cut their daily production by 1.5 million barrels poses no threat to the nation's stable oil supply.

He also explained that the removal of the ceiling on the spot market crude imports is aimed at reducing the foreign exchange expenditure in oil imports because the spot market prices are declining continuously.

The removal of the ceiling on the spot market crude imports will provide additional relief from capital burden to the refineries, who will be able to buy crudes at prices 50 cents to one dollar lower than the benchmark price on the sport markets.

The refineries will be also freed from the duty to pay into the oil stabilization fund when they import more than 20 percent of their total imports from the spot markets.

Business sources said that if the 26-day oil reserve obligation is lifted, the refineries will be able to lower their reserves to an 18-day use level because they need 18 days on the average to refine oil after unloading. Thus, the sources said, the refineries will be relieved of a 120 million dollar oil bill -- 15 million dollars a day -- which will accordingly reduce their deficit in balance of payments.

ASSEMBLY APPROVES SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET REQUEST

SK030029 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 3 Nov 84 p 1

[Text] The National Assembly, in full session, yesterday approved the government's 206.2 billion won supplementary budget request for 1984. The rising vote was 133 for and 89 against. Two members abstained.

The approved budget includes 154.8 billion won to repay the bonds issued by local governments to raise funds for road projects. The other 51.4 billion won is for flood rehabilitation works.

Legislators of the main opposition Democratic Korea Party voted against the additional budget request maintaining that 154.8 billion won should be eliminated. Opponents of the budget request argued that the money might be used in favor of ruling party candidates running in rural districts in the parliamentary elections expected for February next year.

Vice Home Minister Kim Chong-sik said his ministry will consider banning chiefs of "tong, ri and ban" (lower-level administration units) from visiting the homes of voters even for enlightening purposes.

In response to opposition lawmaker members of the Home Affairs Committee Kim also said that offering beverages to election management officials by nonprofit organizations will be banned for the sake of fair elections.

The opposition lawmakers also argued that low-level rural government officials must be banned by legislation from joining political parties.

Kim Song-chin, minister of communications, said that the government plans to raise postal charges by an average five percent in 1985, although he is personally in favor of a higher increase.

Responding to the rumor that Hyundai Group might start business in the electricity and communications field, Kim said that no company will be allowed to participate in the industry in the next five to 10 years.

Minister of Justice Pae Myong-in told the Legislation-Judiciary Committee that the prosecution will set up a task force to deal with election campaign violations.

INCREASE IN BANK INTEREST RATES ANNOUNCED

SK030854 Seoul YONHAP in English 0832 GMT 3 Nov 84

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 3 (YONHAP) -- The government announced on Saturday a small rise in bank interest rates effective next Monday.

According to the announcement, the interest rate on time deposits with maturity of more than one year will be raised from the current 9 percent to 10 percent per annum. The prime rate on loans to exemplary and promising enterprises will be raised from the present 10.5 percent to 11.5 percent per annum.

The move, made Saturday by the Bank of Korea's Monetary Board, is designed to narrow the wide gap in interest rates between the curb market and public financing organizations, a Central Bank official said.

The rates on short-term deposits and loans due within one year will remain intact.

LEADERS OFFER CONDOLENCES AT INDIAN EMBASSY

OW042310 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in Russian 1446 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] [Passage indistinct] important Indian leader Indira Gandhi. They express their indignation at the barbaric terrorist act -- the villainous murder of I. Gandhi. T. Ragchaa, first deputy chairman of the MPR Council of Ministers; S. Lubsangombo, C. Suren, and D. Tsebegmid, deputy chairmen of the MPR Council of Ministers; and B. Badarch, administrator of affairs of the MPR Council of Ministers, visited the Embassy of the Indian Republic in the MPR and expressed their deep condolences in connection with the untimely death as a result of villainous murder of Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.

With a minute of silence they honored the memory of the outstanding Indian state leader, the glorious daughter of the Indian people. They also signed the condolence book. The Indian Embassy in the MPR has also been visited by the representatives of public organizations, ministries, and administrations of the MPR who expressed their condolences concerning the tragic death of Indira Gandhi.

FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY LEADER DEPLORES GANDHI MURDER

OW050020 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in English 1659 GMT 3 Nov 84

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, November 2 (MONTSAME) -- The Mongolian public has been shocked by the news about the assassination of the outstanding state and political leader of India Mrs Indira Gandhi. Together with the Indian people and all the people of good will we are deeply mourning over this heavy loss, member of the Mongolian Peace Committee, chairman of the Mongolian-Indian Friendship Society academician N. Sodnom said to a MONTSAME correspondent. The Mongolian people know Indira Gandhi as a persistent fighter for peace and security of nations, for curbing the arms race and preventing nuclear war, as an active and principled supporter of the policy of peaceful coexistence of states with differing social system. She had made an invaluable contribution to the development and strengthening of friendly relations between the Mongolian and Indian peoples.

Being the head of the Indian Government as well as the chairperson of the Non-aligned Movement Indira Gandhi did her utmost to promote relations of good-neighbourliness and equitable cooperation among all countries of the world. Thanks to this policy India has become today an important factor of peace and stability in the Asian Continent. Having brutally assassinated Indira Gandhi the terrorists and those who are hiding behind them are trying to undermine the national unity and the territorial integrity of the country and eventually the basis of India's peaceloving foreign policy, its political and economic independence. However, their plans will never materialize, Academician N. Sodnom pointed out.

3 NOV DECLARED DAY OF MOURNING FOR GANDHI

OW050046 Ulaanbaatar MONTSAME in English 1723 GMT 3 Nov 84

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, November 2 (MONTSAME) -- In connection with the death of late prime minister of the Republic of India, Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Council of Ministers of the Mongolian People's Republic has declared November 3, 1984, the day of the funeral of the late prime minister, as the day of national mourning in Mongolia.

DELEGATION ARRIVES IN DELHI FOR GANDHI FUNERAL

BK031222 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1104 GMT 3 Nov 84

[Text] SPK November [dateline as received] -- A Kampuchean party and state delegation, led by President Heng Samrin, arrived in New Delhi Friday noon for the funeral of Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. The Kampuchean delegation, which includes Foreign Minister Hun Sen, was welcomed at the airport by Buta Singh, minister in charge of parliamentary affairs; Natwar Singh, secretary of the Foreign Ministry, and other officials. The same day, the Kampuchean delegation paid its last tribute to Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and laid a wreath at the Teen Murti building.

EDITORIAL EULOGIZES INDIA'S INDIRA GANDHI

BK030944 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Station Editorial: "Always Remember Prime Minister Indira Gandhi"]

[Text] The Kampuchean Government and people have just received the tragic news that Indira Gandhi, prime minister of the Republic of India, passed away as a result of a savage act of terrorism in New Delhi at 0900 on 31 October at the age of 66.

Full of grief, the Kampuchean Government and people would like to express their condolences to the fraternal Indian Government and people over the loss of this outstanding leader.

Indira Gandhi was an Indian leader who made considerable, dynamic, and courageous personal contributions in leading the Republic of India toward achieving unity. She fought to overcome misery and led her country toward prosperity. Indira Gandhi was an outstanding personality of the Indian people and a clear-sighted militant of the Indian nation fighting valiantly for national independence and freedom. She was also a famous champion who resolutely and enthusiastically fought for peace and international detente. She was a noble comrade in arms of the national liberation movement for democracy against oppression, racism, apartheid, and Zionism.

The peoples of the Nonaligned Movement-member countries, the peoples of the socialist community, and patriotic forces cherishing peace throughout the world have inscribed deep in their hearts the heroic efforts of Indira Gandhi, chairman of the seventh nonaligned summit conference, who unswervingly adhered to the essential principles of the movement and promoted consultations in an atmosphere of solidarity, unity, cooperation, and mutual understanding for the common goal of the movement: to strengthen peace, defend national independence, and promote international cooperation.

Indira Gandhi tirelessly worked to deal with difficult current tasks and to contribute to easing the tension which is threatening mankind because of the warmongering policy of confrontation pursued by U.S. imperialism and its stooges, the international reactionary forces.

To the PRK, Indira Gandhi was a great and priceless friend of the Kampuchean people who made immense contributions to consolidating and developing the relations of fraternal friendship between the governments and peoples of Kampuchea and India.

The Government of the Republic of India headed by Indira Gandhi vigorously supported the Kampuchean people's just struggle which achieved historic victory on 7 January 1979 in toppling the cruel and savage genocidal regime of Pol Pot, Ieng Sary, and Khieu Samphan, the obedient servants of the Beijing expansionist-hegemonists, and voiced official recognition for the PRK on 7 July 1980. Another important fact is that the Seventh Nonaligned Summit in New Delhi decided to leave the Kampuchean seat vacant in accordance with the decision of the sixth nonaligned summit in Havana. At the same time, Indira Gandhi always strongly supported the goodwill position and constructive proposals of Kampuchea, Vietnam, and Laos aimed at turning Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, stability, and cooperation. Recently India energetically protested the erroneous decision of the United Nations in handing over the Kampuchean seat to the Pol Pot criminals hidign under the label of the so-called CGDK.

The Kampuchean Government and people will always remember the benefactions of the late Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, the outstanding leader of India, a prominent and beloved friend of the Kampuchean people who always stood fast beside the Kampuchean people and who sincerely accorded both moral and material support and assistance to their just struggle. Though Indira Gandhi is no longer with us, her example of self-abnegation and outstanding achievement will always remain in our mind. The Kampuchean Government and people will further promote the bonds of friendship and solidarity with the fraternal Indian Government and people, just as they will strengthen solidarity with Vietnam, Laos, the Soviet Union, and other socialist countries for a strong and prosperous Kampuchean fatherland and the cause of security and peace in the world.

GDR DELEGATION CONCLUDES VISIT TO PHNOM PENH

BK311312 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1124 GMT 31 Oct 84

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK October 31 -- A parliamentary delegation of the German Democratic Republic led by Erich Mueckenberger, Politburo member of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany (SED) and member of the Presidium of the GDR People's Chamber, left here Wednesday after a six-day visit to Kampuchea.

Present to see the delegation off at Pochentong Airport were Chea Sim, Politburo member of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea Central Committee and chairman of both the National Assembly and the National Council of the United Front for Construction and Defence of the Kampuchean Fatherland; Men Saman, member of the party Central Committee, Nu Beng, vice chairman National Assembly; and other Kampuchean officials. GDR Ambassador Gunter Horn, Lao Ambassador Thongpeng Souklaseng and Vietnamese Charge d'Affaires a.i. Nguyen Hoa were also on hand.

Prior to its departure, the delegation paid a courtesy visit to President Heng Samrin general secretary of the KPRP Central Committee, and to Say Phuthang, Politburo member, president of the party Commission for Organization, of the party Central Committee, and vice president of the State Council.

During its stay in Kampuchea, the GDR delegation had talks with delegation of the Kampuchean National Assembly led by Chairman Chea Sim and took part in a meeting in honour of the delegation held at the "Liberation" cigarette factory in Phnom Penh. It also visited the Tuol Sleng Museum of Genocide, the orphanage No. 1, the former royal palace, the national museum, the fine art school, pharmaceutical factory No. 1, in Phnom Penh, the mass graves of genocidal victims at Cheung Ek and a model village in Kandal, and the Angkor Wat Temple in Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province.

HUN SEN VISITS FLOOD-HIT AREAS OF KOMPONG CHAM

BK011424 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1125 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK November 1 -- A Kampuchean party and state delegation recently paid an inspection tour of Kompong Cham Province, 100 km northeast of Phnom Penh. The delegation, which was headed by Hun Sen, Politburo member of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea Central Committee, vice prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, and consisted among others of Sim Ka, member of the KPRP Central Committee and president of the state inspectorate, visited the flood-stricken areas in the provincial capital of Kompong Cham and Kompong Siem District. It also met with workers of the provincial textile factory, cadres of different services and students of the political and medical schools.

Speaking about the Kampuchean situation, Hun Sen denounced machinations of the Chinese expansionists in collusion with the U.S. imperialists and other reactionaries in the ASEAN countries, who, he said, have resorted to all means to do harm to the Kampuchean revolution to reimpose the clique of Polpotist traitors over the Kampuchean people. He stressed that the Polpotists, who were sentenced to death on the Phnom Penh People's Tribunal and condemned by the progressive mankind in the world, have no right to represent the Kampuchean people. He further said that they must be ousted from the United Nations and that the sole authentic representative of the Kampuchean people is the Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea.

"Once again," Hun Sen said, "the UN General Assembly has adopted a wrong resolution which, ignoring the reality in Kampuchea, has grossly violated the Kampuchean people's right to self-determination, sovereignty and security. It runs counter to the principles of the UN Charter and does not help promote dialogue between Southeast Asian countries as well as peace, stability and cooperation in the region."

"The People's Republic of Kampuchea categorically rejects the 39th UN General Assembly's resolution on the so-called Kampuchean problem and considers it a gross interference in the internal affairs of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, an independent and sovereign state," Hun Sen declared. He also welcomed all countries' efforts to help the two groups of countries in Southeast Asia sit down at the negotiating table and find a solution which respects the independence, sovereignty and interests of each side in order to achieve peace, stability, friendship and cooperation in the region.

"All resolutions relating to Kampuchea adopted at the United Nations and at any other international organizations without the participation and the consent of the PRK are null and void," Hun Sen stressed. "The success obtained by the Kampuchean people in the political, military, and economic, and social fields, Foreign Minister Hun Sen underlined, are due to the leadership of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea, the authentic Marxist-Leninist party, and to the national unity as well as the international solidarity, first of all solidarity with Vietnam, Laos and the Soviet Union. These successes are also inseparable from assistance and support from the other socialist countries and progressive mankind the world over.

Foreign Minister Hun Sen also called for the population to promote the emulation movement for economic production and raise vigilance to cope with all perfidious moves of sabotage by the enemy.

PURPOSE OF THAI GENERAL'S U.S. TRIP EXAMINED

BK030636 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0500 GMT 31 Oct 84

["Talk" entitled: "Behind Athit Kamlang-ek's Trip to the United States"]

[Text] Respected listeners: General Athit Kamlang-ek and his militarist colleagues -- let us call them that -- are currently making a trip to the United States. The trip comes at a time when disagreement between two military groups and between the military and administrative sides is breaking out violently. This is why not many people have paid attention to this trip to the United States of Athit Kamlang-ek. This is because everybody knows well that the purpose of the current visit to the United States of Athit Kamlang-ek is not different from that of his visit to China.

As is known, since his return from China, Athit Kamlang-ek has run around in an effort to draw support for taking the prime minister post. Athit Kamlang-ek has displayed his influential power with confidence that the military can get whatever it wants because it has modern weapons in hand. For this reason, under the guidance of China, on 6 June 1984 Athit Kamlang-ek mobilized troops to attack and seize the Lao villages of Ban Mai, Ban Kang, and Ban Savang in Paklai District, Sayaboury Province. By so doing, he hoped to show the abilities of the military to the Thai people.

What a pity that the Thai people and students still have not forgotten that on 14 December 1973 the military administration committed crimes by massacring their innocent beloved children and friends in a bloody manner. Because the Thai people understand the situation and have come to clearly understand the true aggressive nature of the ultrarightist reactionaries in the Thai ruling circles through their occupation of the three Lao villages over the past 4 months or so, the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries have been driven into an impasse. As a result, Thailand's prestige has seen an unprecedented decline in the international arena, and the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries have been strongly denounced by the Thai people throughout the country. At the same time, the Thai reactionaries' forces occupying the three Lao villages have been painfully punished by the Lao guerrillas and regional armed forces. This is why Athit Kamlang-ek's hope has shamefully collapsed. In the end, he was compelled to withdraw the troops, which finally withdrew from the three Lao villages in a disorderly manner.

Despite of the aforesaid defeat, Athit Kamlang-ek and his associates have not yet abandoned their basic policy -- to continue to occupy areas in the three villages. To create tension in the area, they have stepped up collusion with the exiled Lao reactionaries in creating disturbances. Gen Athit Kamlang-ek has now made a trip to the United States to meet with the U.S. side on purchasing weapons and war equipment, for example, F-16 aircraft, submarines, tanks, and armored vehicles which cost tens of million dollars. In doing so, Gen Athit Kamlang-ek has paid no heed to the Thai people's living conditions despite as many as 1.5 million people who are unemployed and a debt to foreign countries of as much as 20 billion dollars. Athit Kamlang-ek just disregards these facts. He thinks only about how to make the Thai military maintain power and might so as to be capable of threatening and conducting provocations against neighboring countries and threatening and suppressing the justice-loving Thai people.

These serve his aim of taking the higher post -- prime minister of the Kingdom of Thailand. This is the ambition of Athit Kamlang-ek and his associates. With this ambition, they can do everything. They have even served as foreign lackeys and burdened the Thai people's shoulders with enormous debts to foreign countries with a view only to fulfilling their ambition.

PASASON SCORES THAILAND'S 'ANTAGONISTIC ATTITUDE'

BK011315 Vientiane KPL in English 0924 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Vientiane, November 1 (OANA-KPL) -- In assessing the Lao-Thai relations, especially since the founding of the Lao People's Democratic Republic in 1975, an article of PASASON today points out that by nature the foreign policy of the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries who closely collude with the Beijing hegemonists and expansionists is still antagonistic towards Laos.

To support its argument that Thai reactionaries have consistently maintained this attitude, the paper cites several incidents of provocation, aggression and violation against Lao territory. The article among other hard facts, quotes the Thai interior minister as saying the day after the proclamation of the new regime in Laos in 1975: "Changes in Laos represent an important danger-warning signal...."

On April 9, 1977, Thai troops invaded the Mekong islet of Don Sankhi and occupied the Don Tam islet on April 17, 1977. On April 26, 1977, they invaded another Lao islet named Don Siangsou. Another serious case occurred on June 4, 1977 when Thai troops fired 12.7mm guns at the capital Vientiane. And the latest incident is the case of Thai attack on and occupation of three hamlets of the northwestern province of Sayaboury in June this year. Tension still remains there due to Thailand's reinforcing its troops and forcing Lao citizens in the three hamlets to live in Thailand.

While trying to weaken Laos in various forms, the paper underlines, the Thai reactionaries are doing their best to discredit Laos by spreading lies. And that is what they actually did at the U.N. General Assembly where the Thai foreign minister announced the withdrawal of Thai troops from the three Lao villages which Thailand still stubbornly claim, despite the fact that all internationally accepted documents and maps point to the contrary and in favour of Laos. This was intended to win the necessary vote for Thailand to sit at the UN Security Council, says the article of PASASON.

The paper stresses in the article that the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries headed by Athit Kamlang-ek are being supported by the reactionaries in the Beijing ruling circles. Beijing, points out the article, wants to use Thai soil as was the case during World War II when the Japanese fascists made use of Thailand for the same purpose.

In such a situation, the paper warns, the Lao as well as the Thai people and the peace- and justice-loving mankind should uphold their vigilance. The maneuvers of the Thai reactionaries and the Beijing expansionists in this matter must be foiled in order to maintain peace and security in this region and in other parts of the world, concludes the article of PASASON.

VIENTIANE MEETING MARKS GREAT OCTOBER REVOLUTION

BK011234 Vientiane KPL in English 0913 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Vientiane, November 1 (KPL) -- The Lao Federation of Trade Unions [LFTU] CC, held here yesterday a meeting to commemorate the 67th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

Among the 1,000 participants were Maichantan Sengmani, Secretariat member of the party CC, head of the party Central Committee, Thitmouan Saochanthala, member of the party CC, Standing Committee member of the PSA [People's Supreme Assembly] and the Lao Front for National Construction; Khambou Sounisai, member of the party CC, mayor of Vientiane; and other high ranking officials. Vladimir Sobchenko, the Soviet ambassador to Laos was also on hand.

Thitsoi Sombatdouang, alternate-member of the party CC, president of the LFTU CC and Drobychev, the Central Committee member of the All-Union Council of Trade Unions of the Soviet Union, and chairman of the trade union of Kuybychev region, the head of the visiting delegation respectively addressed the gathering.

The two men highlighted the victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution which has played an important role in the world liberation movement for democracy, freedom and justice. Successes of the Soviet people in safeguarding their socialist nation were also praised. The Lao and Soviet sides highly evaluated the friendship relations and fruitful cooperation between the parties, governments and peoples of Laos and the Soviet Union.

Speaking of the international problem, the two sides expressed concern over the tension authorized by the U.S. imperialist and their allies.

Regarding the regional situation the two speakers voiced their opinion that the peoples of Laos, Vietnam and Kampuchea have already shown to be capable of smashing the maneuvers coming from external interference.

Drobychev further reaffirmed that the Soviet working people entirely support the initiatives of the three Indochinese countries aiming at making Southeast Asia a region of security, peace and stability which can be realised of [as received] negotiations by peaceful means between the Indochinese and ASEAN groups.

INDIRA GANDHI MOURNED; SON CONGRATULATED

Leaders Offer Condolences

BK030320 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1400 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] At 0900 on 2 November, leaders of the SPC and the government of the LPDR led by Nouhak Phoumsavan, first vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; Khamtai Siphandon, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of national defense; and Sisomphon Lovansai, vice chairman of the SPC, went to the residence of the ambassador of the Republic of India to the LPDR to express condolences over the death of Her Excellency Mrs Indira Gandhi, prime minister of the Republic of India, who was assassinated by the reactionaries on 30 October.

Upon their arrival, the Lao leaders were welcomed by Shiv Kumar, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Republic of India to the LPDR, and other Indian Embassy staff members. The Lao leaders then laid a wreath in front of the portrait of her excellency, the late Mrs Indira Gandhi. In a solemn and sorrowful ceremony, Nouhak Phoumasavan wrote a eulogy in the condolence book in memory of Mrs Indira Gandhi, saying: The SPC, the government, and the people of Laos express deep mourning over the death of Her Excellency Mrs Indira Gandhi -- prime minister of the Republic of India, chairwoman of the Nonaligned Movement, a great patriot, an intelligent politician, an indomitable fighter for national independence and peace, and a great friend of the Lao people -- who has been assassinated by the barbarous hands of the reactionaries. The name of Her Excellency Mrs Indira Gandhi will remain forever in the good relations of friendship between the two peoples of Laos and India.

Rajiv Gandhi Congratulated

BK031430 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1400 GMT 3 Nov 84

[Text] To Your Excellency Rajiv Gandhi, prime minister of the Republic of India, in New Delhi:

On the occasion of your appointment as new prime minister of the Republic of India to succeed Her Excellency Mrs Indira Gandhi, who was barbarically murdered by the reactionaries on 31 October, on behalf of the LPDR Government and the Lao people and in my own name, I would like to extend my warm congratulations to Your Excellency, and wish you great success in continuing the heavy but esteemed responsibilities of the late prime minister.

I firmly believe that the long-standing relations of friendship and fine cooperation between our two countries will be further developed and strengthened in the interests of our two peoples, peace and security in the world, and the Nonaligned Movement.

With great respect, [Signed] Kaysone Phomvihan, chairman of the LPDR Council of Ministers.

[Dated] Vientiane, 3 November 1984.

PASASON Mourns Gandhi's Death

BK021141 Vientiane KPL in English 0916 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] Vientiane November 2 (KPL) -- "Indira Gandhi was a great patriot, an able politician and staunchest fighter for justice, hence her sudden death is a great loss not only for India but also for Laos and the world peace- and justice-loving humanity," says a lead article of PASASON today. "For almost two decades, Indira Gandhi devoted much efforts to the noble cause of national independence and development and unity in the country. She tirelessly enhanced good relations with the socialist community and actively contributed to the struggle for peace, and security in the world," further writes PASASON.

In connection with the relations between the two countries, the paper praises her for having systematically supported the Lao people's struggle in the past as well as at present, describing this as a factor contributing to the strengthening of the ties of friendship and cooperation between Laos and India.

Indira Gandhi is further hailed for her struggle for the consolidation of the Non-Aligned Movement, for the interests of the oppressed peoples, and for the creation of a just and equitable new international economic order.

The paper expresses the Lao people's grief over this great loss and their share of sorrow with the bereft family and the entire Indian people, and wishes that the solidarity and cooperation between the two countries nurtured by Indira Gandhi to this day forever prosper.

PRIVATE BUSINESS REGISTRATION DISCUSSED

BK021434 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0500 GMT 30 Oct 84

[Editorial: "Uphold the Sense of Collective Mastery in Registering Private Enterprises"]

[Text] A resolution of the Third LPRP Congress set forth objectives for various major towns, such as the capital of Vientiane, in their persistent efforts to increase building and management work in various spheres in order to turn towns into the centers of the new political, economic, and social systems.

To translate this spirit into reality, the Council of Ministers approved and enforced regulations on the registration of private enterprises in December 1982, aimed at advising private enterprises to operate in accordance with the party line and state plan, thus benefitting the economy and the living conditions of the people of all tribes, guaranteeing the legitimate interests of businessmen, and contributing to building independent and self-determined economic bases and to developing socialism.

To carry out the registration of enterprises, and to issue licenses facilitating business operations and the payment of enterprise tax, income tax, and stamp duty in conformity with the true situation, over the past 4 months the various branches of work concerned in Vientiane Municipality have reviewed the registration of private enterprises by all organizations and by all Lao citizens or foreigners engaging in agricultural production, industry, handicraft, construction, transportation, repair work, food and drink services, public health and cultural activities, or other trade activities operating in the form of agricultural cooperative, company, association, or private business -- movable or immovable and retail or wholesale.

Through this review our state has been able to obtain clearer information on the numbers and types of private enterprises. The coordination between the local administration and the cadres in charge of registering private enterprises and other branches has been effective. Those directly engaging in business have positively tried to contribute to making the review and registration of private enterprises in Vientiane municipality successful. Illegal trade activities along the border have been gradually checked and minimized. The prices of goods in markets have been normalized to some extent. For example, the prices of food and commodities remain stable.

Nevertheless, since the registration of private enterprises and the collection of enterprise tax, income tax and stamp duty represent the struggle to resolve the question of who is winning over whom between the two lines -- socialism and capitalism -- and between the interests of the whole society and private interests, those engaging in illegal businesses in the country and the capitalists in foreign countries are resorting to every trick to sabotage our economy. They are playing various tricks to evade state control and supervision and are seeking every way to confuse our markets by providing incorrect data, hiding goods, engaging in illegal trade, refusing to stay under state control and management, and so forth. At the same time, they have tried in every way possible to bribe revenue officials, policemen, commerce officials, and the local administration in order to place their illegal trade on a legal basis and permanently sabotage our economy.

This situation demands that we profoundly understand that the task of registering private enterprises, and collecting enterprise tax and stamp duty are the work of everyone, of all branches of work, and of the administration at all levels. This means that everyone is entrusted with the duty of following, controlling, and eliminating all illegal trade activities. Everyone has the duty of assisting revenue officials, commerce officials, and policemen in promptly checking and punishing illegal trade. Meanwhile, we must positively commend and praise the outstanding cadres and combatants on this front and positively train leading cadres as well as those on the lower echelons. Women's associations should receive special attention, since those engaging in retail business are mostly women.

In short, the outstanding individuals or groups of people in the movement of private enterprise registration must be promptly commended and praised. Those who intentionally violate our state law and regulations must be widely criticized among the people through the mass media and must be strictly punished. All this is to educate and train everyone to have a high sense of collective mastery in the registration of private enterprises being currently carried out by our state. At the same time, this is to enable those engaging in private enterprises to see clearly their obligations toward the state and to correctly and truly implement the party line and state law and regulations.

GENERAL FORESEES DIVIDED EAST, WEST KAMPUCHEA

BK020159 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 2 Nov 84 p 3

[Text] First Army Region Commander Lt Gen Phichit Kunlawanit predicted yesterday that the eastern border would continue to be tense no matter how the problem in Kampuchea would be solved. He said Thai borders with Kampuchea and Laos had been the most troubled zones for the military as far as security was concerned after the Vietnamese occupation of the two neighbouring countries.

According to the military prediction, the problem in Kampuchea would end in one of the three manners: Kampuchea is completely controlled by Vietnam, the Khmer resistance force successfully pushes Vietnamese troops out of Kampuchea and Kampuchea is divided into two parts -- east and west, he said.

Lt Gen Phichit said he personally believed that chances were high that Kampuchea would be divided into two parts because "from the history, communist troops would never withdraw when they occupied a country." He said Thailand's counter solution to the tension along the eastern border was the formation of defence villagers along the frontier to enable villagers to defend themselves and to prevent invasions from the opposite side. He said the First Army Region has so far set up over 50 self-defence villagers along the eastern border.

The First Army Region Commander also assured that the army would be capable enough in defending the country in case of an invasion by Vietnam. "Our morale is much better and we are not afraid of Vietnam despite the fact that it is supported by the Soviet Union. Our soldiers are well prepared," he said.

Speaking during a lecture on "Thailand's border problems" to participants in a course on national defence, Lt Gen Phichit said the problems along the Thai-Burmese and Thai-Malaysian borders had been minor and "all were solved in peaceful manners." "We understand the intentions of the two countries," he said.

PHICHIT BLAMES OLD MAP FOR LAO BORDER DISPUTE

BK030301 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 3 Nov 84 p 3

[Excerpt] First Army Region Commander Lt-Gen Phichit Kunlawanit yesterday blamed an old colonial map for the border dispute with Laos. Lt-Gen Phichit said the map was made during the colonial era with the intention of cheating Thailand of Ban Mai, Ban Klang and Ban Sawang in Uttaradit's Ban Khok Sub-district. These villages, he said, were in Thai territory and under Thai administration before the map was drawn up by a colonial power. No name was mentioned.

The commander said a modern American map clearly showed the villages were Thai, while Laos based its claim on the map which is more than a century old.

DELEGATION TO VISIT CHINA FOR TRADE TALKS

BK030846 Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] A Thai delegation will visit China during 6-13 November to negotiate the bilateral trade target for next year, which is expected to be \$400 million. The team, to be led by the director general of the Department of Foreign Trade, Danai Dulalampha, will put emphasis on exports of agricultural products while main imports from China will be petroleum products.

According to Mr Danai, industrial products include glass sheets, of which more than 3 million square meters have been sold to China. He said that Thailand will set a proper proportion for Thai rice exports and imports of Chinese oil. According to him, Thailand has yet to ship 47,000 tons of rice to China because it still awaits a final pricing agreement. Concerning oil imports, he said the target has always been achieved because this transaction is based on government dealing. The bilateral trade last year reached the target of \$340 million.

BAHT DEVALUATION EFFECTIVE 5 NOV ANNOUNCED

Finance Ministry Announcement

BK021356 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Announcement 2 November by the Finance Ministry]

[Text] By virtue of Article 8, Paragraph 3, of the 1958 Currency Act, the finance minister, on the advice of the Bank of Thailand, has issued the following announcement:

1. The currency exchange system: the baht value will be based on the value of the currencies of Thailand's trading partners in accordance with the importance of trade with those countries, taking into consideration the economic and monetary situation in Thailand.
2. The Currency Exchange Equalization Fund shall conduct the buying and the selling of foreign currencies in order to maintain the stability of the baht value in accordance with the system stated in point 1, and shall occasionally announce and fix the median rate of the buying and selling rate of the U.S. dollar by commercial banks as it deems necessary, starting from the median rate of 27 baht per U.S. \$1 as of 5 November 1984.

Announced on 2 November 1984

Signed: Sommai Huntrakun, finance minister

Central Bank Explanation

BK030945 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0000 GMT 3 Nov 84

[Text] The Bank of Thailand issued an explanation saying that the country's past foreign exchange system linked the value of the baht to that of the U.S. dollar. The baht remained stable relative to the U.S. dollar, and this benefited the country's trade and investment for a time. However, the system did not suit Thailand's present economic situation because of fluctuations in the value of major currencies, which destabilized the baht. Tying the baht to the U.S. dollar led to variations in the baht's value not in line with Thailand's economic conditions. Moreover, the U.S. dollar has risen steadily against other currencies recently, which also increases the baht's value. The baht rose an average of 15 percent over the past 3 years. The excessively high value of the baht could greatly harm the country's economy, as it encouraged an unusual increase in imports. As foreign goods became cheaper when paid for in baht, the country's foreign trade deficit and balance of payments worsened. At the same time, Thai exports became more expensive and could not sell well on world markets. Consequently, manufacturers earned less money and this led to a drop in the prices of agricultural products, affecting the income and living standard of farmers.

For these reasons, the Finance Ministry and the Bank of Thailand decided to readjust the exchange system so that the baht is no longer linked to the U.S. dollar. Under the new system, the baht's value will vary in line with the currencies of Thailand's major trading partners and in accordance with the country's economic and monetary situation. This will stabilize the baht relative to other currencies.

The baht's value can be changed occasionally as necessary, in conformity with the country's economic and monetary situation.

The Bank of Thailand said that the baht's devaluation would have some adverse effects, but the government will find some way to relieve these effects -- such as by maintaining the present domestic oil retail prices while trying to control the prices of other essentials. The government will also prevent profiteering and similar practices.

The Finance Ministry and the Bank of Thailand believe that the readjustment of the exchange system will not only improve the country's trade and balance of payment positions, but will also benefit the overall economy, especially manufacturers of export goods and farmers, who constitute the majority of the country's population.

The exchange system readjustment and the baht devaluation will certainly increase the prices of imported goods. But the increase can be delayed for a long time because there are still enough supplies of foreign goods in the country. Therefore, the government warns traders not to seize this as an opportunity to increase prices of commodities; it will not hesitate to take any action against such opportunists causing trouble for the people.

Finance Minister's Comments

BK030233 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 3 Nov 84 pp 1, 2

[Text] Finance Minister Sommai Huntrakun said yesterday that it took a long time for the government to devalue the baht and that he fully hoped that the public will understand the necessity for the country to improve trade and balance-of-payments position. The minister had an urgent meeting with top officials of the Bank of Thailand. The participants included Deputy Finance Minister Dr Suthi Singsane, central bank's Governor Kamchon Sathirakun.

When told by reporters that the devaluation was a surprise, particularly when it was as much as four baht, Minister Sommai just chuckled.

When asked about possible political repercussions because Prime Minister Gen Prem Tinsulanon had promised earlier that there would not be another devaluation, he said: "Everything has a timeframe. The premier said that it would be just one year. Who can say that there would be no devaluation forever."

When asked whether he was afraid of public criticism because his former deputy Dr Phaichit Utthawikun had to resign after two earlier devaluations, Minister Sommai said: It was a matter of national interest. "I have already informed the premier, and he said that devaluation could be done if it was necessary. But I spent a long time before making the decision," he pointed out.

When pressed further why there was such a decision despite repeated claims that the Thai economy was good, Sommai said: "Our economy is good, but we have to look at it in the long term, which does not look promising. We cannot just live just day by day." He pointed out that the public should appreciate the reasons for the devaluation particularly when the baht appreciated 35 percent against the pound sterling and 20 percent against German mark. "Our products have become more expensive."

When told that the baht just appreciated by 6 percent against the Japanese yen and Japan is Thailand's biggest trading partner, Sommai contended that it was Japan's monetary policy.

The country's external debts outstanding will immediately increase 17.39 percent from the present U.S.\$12,000 million. But a banker said the combined external debts could be U.S.\$13,000-14,000 million. However, Minister Sommai pointed out that though the country's external borrowing rose annually, Thailand's economy also grew 5-6 percent. "I believe that when the U.S. dollar can rise, it can also come down."

He said the devaluation by 17 percent will be enough for Thai products to compete in foreign markets. "If we devalued the baht by 5 percent, the goods would still be more expensive. So the new exchange rate is suitable taking into consideration the real transaction weighting. The new exchange of 27 baht for one U.S. dollar is realistic at present. We have to prevent sharp trade deficit increase." To cushion the impact the government will maintain retail oil prices and introduce tax measures for imports of essential goods, he said.

Foreign Minister ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sitthi Sawetsila, who was called to the meeting at 6 pm, refused comment when asked whether the devaluation will affect government stability. "You should ask the finance minister," he said.

Party Leader's, Bankers' Views

BK030315 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 3 Nov 84 p p 1, 20

[Text] Thai Bankers' Association President Banyong Lamsam said yesterday the government's decision to devalue the national currency has caught him by surprise. He said he failed to understand why the government decided to lower the baht's value. It would not directly affect local commercial banks as all of them were making profits, but the higher cost of living would definitely hurt the public, he said. But Mr Banyong added that the association needed more time to assess the advantages and disadvantages of the government's action.

Chat Thai Party deputy leader Dr Anuwat Wattanaphongsiri and secretary-general Banhan Sinlapa-acha called on the government to resign. Dr Anuwat said the government did not have sufficient reason for the devaluation and predicted that it would lead to national bankruptcy and economic chaos.

Mr Banhan said businessmen were shocked by what he described as "an unbelievable action" by the government. It showed the government's inability to maintain the country's monetary stability, he said.

Mr Banhan pointed out that this was the second time that the baht was devalued since Finance Minister Sommai Huntrakun assumed the office. The first reduction, he said, was about 10 percent as against the more than 17 percent devaluation announced yesterday. He noted that Mr Sommai had declared before parliament earlier this year that there would be no devaluation within 12 months. "The government which lies to the people should quit before it is driven away by the public," said Mr Banhan.

He added that Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon, who he believed had approved the devaluation, must be held fully responsible for his government's action.

The devaluation, he said, would totally disrupt industry and investment. He described as false the government's claim that exports would benefit from the baht's lower value. The government, he said, had cited the same reason before, and exports had not increased while the country's trade deficits had soared. Mr Banhan said he would discuss with his party leader, Maj-Gen Praman Adireksan, about a move to reconvene parliament to pressure the government into resigning.

Gen Prem's economic adviser, Wiraphong Ramangkorn, said the devaluation was long overdue. It was necessary, he said, because since the previous devaluation of the baht in 1981, the value of the U.S. dollar had gone up so much, resulting in the rise of the baht against other currencies. He said exports would benefit from the devaluation.

Thai Farmers Bank President Bancha Lamsam said he was surprised, but declined to make comment. He said the Bank of Thailand authorities would meet with bankers this morning.

Board of Investment [BOI] Secretary-General Decha Bunchuchua said the country's export would increase while imports would be reduced because of their higher costs. He said rising costs of raw materials might affect domestic investments, but the BOI would find ways to help. Effects on incoming foreign investments were expected to be minimal, he said.

Siam Commercial Bank Senior Executive Vice President Dr Oran Chaiprawat was "reasonably surprised" by the news, but said he hoped the government had taken the right step. However, he said the exchange rate of 27 baht per U.S. dollar was too much. He said 25 baht a dollar would be just right. Dr Oran also advised the government to leave it to the market to decide the daily value of the baht rather than pegging it to the dollar.

Thai Sugar Corporation General Manager Amnuai Patisai expected high revenue from the sale of refined sugar next year. That would mean more income for cane growers and millers, he said.

Thai Tapioca Trade Association President Sukit Wangli predicted a rise in the cost of living.

BANGKOK GOVERNOR, DEPUTIES HAND IN RESIGNATIONS

BK010315 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 1 Nov 84 p 1

[Excerpt] Bangkok Governor Thiam Makaranon and his four deputies handed in their resignations to Interior Minister Sitthi Chirarot yesterday. Adm Thiam said the resignations were effective as of today and that he would hand over his work to Deputy City Clerk Sisit Wasikkasiri this morning. City Clerk Chalo Tammasiri, who is abroad at present, will take over the city administration during the interim period before a new governor is appointed by Gn Sitthi.

Prem Briefed on Shakeup

BK020215 Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 2 Nov 84 pp 1, 2

[Excerpt] A group of advisors to the prime minister yesterday met Gen Prem Tinsulanon at his Sasao residence to brief him on the controversy that has led to the resignation of executives of the Bangkok administration. The eight advisors, led by Minister of the PM's Office Dr Kramon Thongthammachat, told the premier that ex-Bangkok Governor Adm Thiam Makaranon did not make serious mistakes apart from the major flooding of the city last year, according to Dr Kramon.

He quoted the premier as commenting that Adm Thiam was disliked by many people probably because he "spoke too little" and he had held the post for quite a while. He was appointed to the post three years and a half ago. The premier was also quoted as saying that he would not take part in the selection of a new Bangkok governor because the Cabinet had assigned Interior Minister Sittihi Chirarot to carry out the mission. Dr. Kramon also said that the advisors talked with the premier about the performance of the city administration under Adm Thiam. "It's not true that the former city governor did not achieve anything. It's the first time under his leadership that the Bangkok administration succeeded in moving the weekend market from Sanam Luang," he said.

NHAN DAN DISCUSSES U.S. ASIA-PACIFIC STRATEGY

BK311405 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 26 Oct 84

[NHAN DAN 26 October article by Le Ba Thuyen: "The U.S. Asia-Pacific Strategy Is Very Dangerous"]

[Text] The Washington ruling circles are referring a great deal to the Asia-Pacific region. They stress the important position and vital significance of this region as far as the United States is concerned, which they consider the region of the 21st century. The Reagan administration is intensively formulating and carrying out the U.S. Asia-Pacific strategy. It was to nowhere else in the world but to this region that U.S. President Reagan paid two visits within half a year's time -- to Japan and China. The secretaries of state and defense, top generals, and chief capitalists of the United States have successively come here. U.S. political, military, and economic activities here are quite hectic. On 16 October, it was the turn of U.S. Secretary of State Shultz to publicly declare the U.S. design to return to this region and express his pleasure at the United States' initial success in establishing a new system of relations here.

Why do the U.S. imperialists show unusual concern toward the Asia-Pacific region?
What is their scheme in the so-called Asia-Pacific strategy?

Given the current international situation, the United States, in looking at the Asia-Pacific region, finds it possessing new forces of appeal. First, economically, this region is a gigantic store of natural resources that have been little exploited. Here, where labor is abundant and cheap and the market is lucrative, is where the imperialists can earn huge profits. In 1983, U.S. capital investment in Asia and the Pacific spiralled from \$4 billion previously to \$26.6 billion; and two-way trade with the United States was valued at \$136.6 billion, an increase of 8 percent over the previous year and the highest figure as compared with other regions in the world. This region accounts for 30 percent of the U.S. trade volume worldwide, and the U.S. volume of trade with this region is 24 percent greater than that with Western Europe.

Second, militarily the United States considers Asia-Pacific the second most important arena after Western Europe in its strategy of opposition to the Soviet Union and the socialist community. This region controls many large strategic sea lanes and serves as a springboard for the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force to advance into the Indian Ocean and the oil-rich Middle East.

The Asia-Pacific is the only region where in the past 40 years since World War II, three of the biggest, longest, and bloodiest local wars have erupted, namely, the Korean war and the two Indochinese wars; and this is not to mention the wars conducted by China against virtually all of its neighboring countries. It is also here that the United States has set up the largest number of military alliances -- from CENTO, SEATO, and ANZUS to the U.S.-Japan, U.S.-Taiwan, U.S.-South Korea, and other alliances.

The Asia-Pacific strategy of the United States is part of its counterrevolutionary global strategy of carrying out a militarist and warlike policy of confrontation against the Soviet Union and the socialist community in an attempt to gain military superiority.

This is an extremely reactionary and dangerous strategy with three major objectives: First, open a second front and set up a NATO-type military bloc in Asia to link up with the West European front and NATO in the west in a two-pronged strategy aimed at encircling and opposing the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community; second, counter the revolutionary and national independence movement that is developing vigorously in the region, especially the revolutionary movement of the three Indochinese countries; and third, maintain and impose the U.S. neocolonial rule on various countries in the region and exploit their natural resources for huge profits while setting up military bases and springboards there.

To realize these dark schemes Washington has paid special attention to the use of political, military, and economic measures which U.S. Secretary of Defense Weinberger refers to as the six pillars of the Asia-Pacific strategy. The first measure is aimed at increasing U.S. military strength in this region of the world. The White House and the Pentagon consider this a primary measure of decisive significance. Under the Reagan administration at present, the U.S. military forces in Asia-Pacific are 474,000 strong; and they include the 7th, 5th, and 3d Fleets totaling almost 1,500 warships, over 1,100 aircraft, and over 300 military positions and bases. The United States is pressing its allies in the region into the arms race and is plotting to introduce nuclear missiles into the region.

Second, the United States has entered into an alliance with Japan, restored militarism, and rearmed this country, turning it into an unsinkable aircraft carrier and the chief instrument of the U.S. Asia-Pacific strategy.

Third, the United States has closely colluded with Chinese expansionism and hegemonism and effected a devilish form of cooperation between Washington, Tokyo, and Beijing.

Fourth, the United States has set up regional alliances, the most important of which is the Northeast Asian military alliance comprising itself, Japan, and South Korea, that turns South Korea into a beachhead to oppose the Soviet Union from the southeast. The United States has also strengthened its alliance with the most reactionary forces of the ASEAN member countries while gradually pushing for military alliance, and consolidated the ANZUS military bloc in the Southwest Pacific with Australia and New Zealand as its members.

Fifth, the United States has intensified its presence in South Asia and the Indian Ocean by deploying the 5th Fleet and consolidating and expanding the system of U.S. military bases in the Indian Ocean and the Persian Gulf which are linked with other military bases in the Pacific through Diego Garcia.

Sixth, the United States has proceeded toward setting up a Pacific community comprising dozens of countries on both sides of this ocean with the aim of serving the economic and political domination and control of the United States in collusion with Japan.

In its Asia-Pacific strategy, the United States is coordinating with reactionary forces to set up land, island, and sea lines in a bid to carry out their dark schemes. It is noteworthy that recently many generals and top officials of the Reagan administration loudly claimed that one place or another in the Asia-Pacific region is a threat to the United States. This is a familiar maneuver employed by the United States to create tension before committing crimes and to push for a frenzied arms race. Washington's dangerous scheme of colluding with Tokyo and Beijing in carrying out its Asia-Pacific strategy is seriously jeopardizing the independence, sovereignty, peace, and security of all nations in the region; and it is creating an extremely critical situation in the region as well as the rest of the world.

All countries in Asia and the Pacific have adequate reasons to worry about the perfidious schemes of the United States and all kinds of devilish alliances that are taking shape. This situation requires that peoples in Asia and the Pacific heighten their vigilance and unite in the struggle to foil all the adventurous schemes and plans of the United States and its accomplices, prevent them from conducting the arms race, stay their meddling and warmongering hands, and strive untiringly for lasting peace in Asia and the Pacific.

The Asia-Pacific region is where the U.S. imperialists have sustained the heaviest setbacks, and where the most profound changes in the world have taken place over the past 4 decades. The peoples of Asia and the Pacific, being determined not to let the war-crazed imperialists act as they wish, surely have adequate material and spiritual strength to defend their independence, freedom, and sovereignty, as well as peace and security for themselves and the region.

USSR-SRV FRIENDSHIP TREATY ANNIVERSARY HAILED

OW031550 Hanoi VNA in English 1531 GMT 3 Nov 84

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 3 -- "Solidarity and comprehensive cooperation with the Soviet Union will be constantly a basic and principled policy and the corner-stone in the foreign policy of the Vietnamese party and state," stresses NHAN DAN in an editorial today marking the sixth anniversary of the Vietnam-U.S.S.R. treaty of friendship and cooperation.

The paper stresses: "The Vietnamese people are deeply aware that their revolutionary gains are closely associated with the strong support and the generous, disinterested and great assistance in many fields from the fraternal socialist countries, first of all the Soviet Union, the first worker-peasant state in the world, the most mighty and advanced socialist country".

"After six years of implementation of the treaty, "the paper notes, "the fraternal relationship between the two countries has been broadened and deepened in all fields, and has become more and more effective." The paper recalls that in recent years, many major projects of the Vietnamese national economy have either started construction or been partially completed with Soviet assistance. Most noteworthy, the Vietnam-U.S.S.R. gas and oil venture has made an encouraging achievement in striking oil on the southern continental shelf and is installing the first off-shore oil rig.

"Trade links between the two countries are developing with an increasing exchange of commodities. Cooperation in science and technology has also broadened, helping to conduct the study of nearly one hundred subjects. Soviet assistance in the training of Vietnamese cadres and workers plays a special role in the cooperative relations between the two countries," NHAN DAN further says.

It goes on: "The Vietnamese people fully support the Soviet party and state's principled policy and their peace initiatives aimed at halting the arms race, for the sake of peace, stability, and friendship among nations and states.

"In the present complicated international situation caused by the U.S. imperialists and their accomplices, the solidarity, unity, untiring efforts and coordination of actions in the common struggle for peace and socialism by the socialist countries are of great importance.

"Marking the sixth anniversary of the signing of the Vietnam-U.S.S.R. treaty of friendship and cooperation, the Vietnamese people express their sincere gratitude toward the great and disinterested assistance rendered by the Soviet party, government and people to the Vietnamese people's revolutionary cause," NHAN DAN concludes.

2D SOVIET-EQUIPPED SATELLITE STATION TO START

OW031145 Hanoi VNA in English 0816 GMT 3 Nov 84

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 3 -- The installation of an earth satellite tele-communication station named "Lotus No 2" will start soon in Ho Chi Minh City on the occasion of the 67th anniversary of the Great October Revolution, according to the Vietnam post office.

This is the second station installed with Soviet assistance, the first is located in Ha Nam Ninh Province, Northern Vietnam. It is expected to be operative on April 30, 1985 in celebration of the 10th anniversary of the liberation of southern Vietnam.

NHAN DAN CONDEMNS THAI OCCUPATION OF LAO HAMLETS

BK011119 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 29 Oct 84

[NHAN DAN 29 October commentary: "Wholeheartedly Support the Lao People's Just Struggle To Defend Their Territorial Sovereignty"]

[Text] The illegal military occupation of three Lao hamlets by the Thai authorities has triggered strong indignation along the world public. This was an extremely erroneous and brazen act supported by no one except the Beijing reactionaries who had urged, schemed for, and encouraged the Thai ultrarightists to carry out this criminal act of aggression. Thus, the seriousness of Thailand's occupation of three Lao hamlets and its scheme of expansion against Lao territory has gone beyond the limit of Lao-Thai relations and directly threatened peace and security of the whole region, thereby creating regional tension.

Faced with the determined struggle of the Lao people and the stern indictment of public opinion, the Thai ruling circles have become increasingly isolated; and driven into a highly embarrassed situation, they have had to send up smokescreens, claiming that they have withdrawn from those three hamlets and that the issue concerning those three hamlets has been settled.

On 26 October 1984, the Lao Foreign Ministry issued an important statement pointing out the deceptive maneuvers of the Bangkok ruling circles and clearly showing to the world the current truth about the three Lao hamlets. The fact is that Thailand has not really withdrawn its troops from Lao territory and has not abandoned its scheme of occupying the three Lao hamlets and its expansionism toward Laos. Proof of this is that Thai troops are still holding positions in the three hamlets in Lao territory, continuing their criminal shellings against the three hamlets, and reinforcing the newly constructed military positions on various hills that control access to the three hamlets; and they have not returned some 1,000 Lao inhabitants of those three hamlets who were forcibly evacuated to Thailand. More important still, recently, the commander of the Thai Army still stubbornly and unreasonably claimed that the three said hamlets belong to Thailand and clearly revealed the dark scheme of continuing expansionism against Lao territory.

All those acts of the Thai ultrarightist circles show that they continue to pursue a hostile policy toward the Lao people and tail after Beijing in carrying out a policy of confrontation aimed at bleeding the peoples of the three Indochinese countries. Such a policy is unreasonable and unrealistic. The Thai people and many sober-minded Thai politicians have found this policy unacceptable as this is a reactionary policy that will only bring disastrous consequences to this promoters and supporters.

The Lao Government and people have clearly shown a principled stand and a good-will attitude in their relations with Thailand. They are determined to defend the independence, sovereign, and territorial integrity of Laos and at the same time, persistently pursue a foreign policy of peace while standing ready to solve the problems involving Lao-Thai relations by negotiations and talks with Thailand at any time. Everyone is

waiting for a response from Thailand. It would be quite wrong if the Bangkok ruling circles thought they could rely on some kind of force to continue their military adventures.

Our people totally approve and support the demands of the Lao Government and people. Thailand must withdraw its troops completely from Lao territory instead of moving them from one position to another, stop all threatening and harassing activities against the three Lao hamlets, repatriate immediately and completely the inhabitants of those three hamlets who were forcibly moved to Thailand, pay compensation for the damage inflicted upon the people of Laos in this area. This is a correct stand, a just proposal, and a reasonable and rational solution aimed at ending tension in the Lao-Thai border area and in bilateral relations and meeting the desire of the peoples of both countries to contribute to consolidating peace and stability in Indochina and the rest of the Southeast Asia.

Our people, bound to the Lao people with special militant solidarity, always stand by the wholeheartedly support the struggle the struggle of the fraternal Lao people to defend their territorial sovereignty.

TRUONG CHINH LEADS DELEGATION TO GANDHI FUNERAL

OW030823 Hanoi VNA in English 0751 GMT 3 Nov 84

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 2 -- A delegation of the Council of State and the Council of Ministers of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam led by President Truong Chinh arrived in New Delhi at noon today, to attend the funeral of Indian Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi.

The delegation was welcomed at Palam Airport by Bhuta Singh, minister in charge of parliamentary affairs of the new government headed by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi; Natwar Singh, secretary of the Indian Foreign Ministry, the Vietnamese, Lao and Kampuchean ambassadors to India; and other officials.

At a reception at the airport, President Truong Chinh expressed the profound condolences of the state, the government and the people of Vietnam to the great Indian people, to Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and his family on Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's assassination.

In the afternoon, President Truong Chinh and his party paid their last homage to Mrs. Indira Gandhi at the Teen Murti Building where the prime minister's remains is laid in state. The wreath of the Vietnamese delegation bears the inscription: "Boundless regret for Prime Minister Indira Gandhi."

Meets Indochinese Leaders

OW031920 Hanoi VNA in English 1609 GMT 3 Nov 84

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 3 -- President Truong Chinh, head of the delegation of the Vietnamese Council of State and Council of Ministers for the funeral of the late Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, yesterday afternoon cordially received Lao President Souphanouvong and Kampuchean President Heng Samrin in New Delhi.

President Souphanouvong and President Heng Samrin are leading their respective countries' delegations which arrived in the Indian capital at noon in the day for the same purpose.

The three Indochinese heads of state exchanged views on the manoeuvres of imperialism and international reaction against India's policy of peace, friendship and non-alignment, and on their criminal and cowardly assassination of Mrs. Indira Gandhi, a great and close friend of the three Indochinese peoples.

EVENTS IN SRV MARK MOURNING OVER GANDHI'S DEATH

3-Day Mourning Period

BK040643 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] In memory of Mrs Indira Gandhi, prime minister of the Republic of India, on 1 November the SRV Council of Ministers decided that the entire country will go into mourning, that flags will be flown at half mast at all public buildings, and that all entertainment activities will be suspended for 3 days from today, 3 November, through 5 November.

Delegations Pay Respects

BK021914 Hanoi VNA in English 1634 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 2 -- Many more delegations of public offices, branches of activity and mass organizations paid their last tribute to Indian Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi at the Indian Embassy in Hanoi today. Among them were the delegations of the Vietnam Fatherland Front Central Committee, the Vietnam Confederation of Trade Unions, the Women's Union Central Committee, the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union Central Committee, the Vietnam Buddhist Church, the Vietnam Radio and Television Commission, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Foreign Trade, the Ministry of Public Health and the Union of Textile Mills.

Many members of the diplomatic corps and representatives of international organizations in Hanoi also paid homage to the late prime minister.

Hanoi Memorial Service

OW031141 Hanoi VNA in English 0826 GMT 3 Nov 84

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 3 -- A solemn memorial service was held at the Hanoi municipal theatre this morning for the late Indian Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi. It was jointly organized by the Central Committee of the Vietnam Fatherland Front, the Vietnam Committee for Solidarity and Friendship With Other Peoples and Vietnam-India Friendship Association. A large portrait of the late Indian prime minister hung on the rostrum flanked by the national flags of Vietnam and India and inscribed with the words "Immense grief over the demise of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi". The air was filled with the incense from a large incense burner placed at the centre of the rostrum beside eight big wreaths.

Among the mourners were Pham Van Dong, chairman of the Council of Ministers; Nguyen Huu Tho, vice president of the State Council and chairman of the National Assembly; Do Muoi and Dong Si Nguyen, deputy chairmen of the Council of Ministers; Defence Minister Van Tien Dung; Nghiem Xuan Yem, vice-president of the National Assembly, general secretary of the Vietnam Democratic Party; Nguyen Xien, vice-president of the National Assembly, general secretary of the Vietnam Socialist Party; Tran Dang Khoa, member of the Presidium of the Vietnam Fatherland Front Central Committee; Hoang Minh Giam, chairman of the Vietnam Committee for Solidarity and Friendship With Other Peoples; Minister Dr. Dang Hoi Xuan, president of the Vietnam-India Friendship Association; Nguyen Thi Binh, minister, vice-president of the A.A.P.S.O.; Tran Danh Tuyen, chairman of the Vietnam A.A.P.S.O. Committee; Nguyen Duc Thuan, president of the Vietnam Federation of Trade Unions; Le Trang, acting director of the National Assembly and State Council Office; Vo Van Sung, assistant to the foreign minister; many ministers and vice ministers and representatives of public offices and mass organizations, together with large numbers of Vietnamese cadres and students who had been in India.

Indian Ambassador Kuldip Shadap and staff members of the embassy also attended. The service began at 9.00 hrs with the playing of the national anthems of Vietnam and India. In an atmosphere filled with grief, Dr. Dang Hoi Xuan delivered the oration. He said:

Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, the great daughter of the Indian people and a great and close friend of the Vietnamese people, is no more. This is a common grief of the Indian and the Vietnamese peoples and of progressive humanity as a whole. Mrs Indira Gandhi's demise has deprived the Indian people of an esteemed and beloved leader and an outstanding continuator of the noble cause of Mahatma Gandhi and JawaharLal Nehru, in her death, the Non-aligned Movement, the peace movement and the world people have lost a prominent activist who had staunchly struggled for the ideals of peace, national independence and social progress; and the Vietnamese people have lost a great friend who they have always held in great esteem and affection.

Mrs. Indira Gandhi was born on November 19, 1917 at Allahabad in the Indian state of Uttar Pradesh as the only child of the late Indian Prime Minister Jawahar Lal Nehru, inheriting the tradition of a great patriotic family. Mrs. Indira Gandhi right at her youth joined the Indian people's struggle for independence and freedom. She joined the National Congress party in 1938, and was elected to the party's All-India Congress Committee in 1955 and became the party's president in 1959. In January 1966 she became prime minister of the Republic of India. Over the past 18 years, she had always held this high post all along the period when her National Congress Party was in power until she was assassinated.

Mrs. Indira Gandhi's long and dynamic activities were closely associated with the Indian people's struggle to win and defend national independence, and with the Indian people's major achievements in all fields, economic, cultural, scientific and technological, in the building of a modern and unified India. She has devoted her whole life, her heart and the last drops of her blood to the great cause of the Indian nation. Her name, Indira Gandhi, has become the symbol of an independent, peaceful, unified and prosperous India. Inheriting in an excellent way the foreign policy of independence, peace and non-alignment charted by the late Prime Minister Jawahar Lal Nehru, Mrs. Indira Gandhi had struggled indefatigably for peace, national independence and friendship among nations. She strongly condemned the arms race policy and wholeheartedly contributed to the struggle against the danger of another world war. She pointed an indignant finger at the injustice committed by imperialism and colonialism against the developing countries and gave her all to the struggle for a new international economic order. She constantly cared for the consolidation of the unity of the Non-aligned Movement, valiantly defended and supported the just cause of all nations, and for the enhancement of solidarity and friendship with the socialist countries and peace-loving people throughout the world. She has done invaluable services to the world people's common struggle for peace, national independence and social progress.

India and Prime Minister Indira Gandhi hold a special place in the heart of each Vietnamese. During her life full of dynamic activities, she always gave her deep feelings and strong support to the Vietnamese people's just cause and made considerable contributions to consolidating and promoting the fine friendship between the two nations. The Vietnamese people will never forget Indira's Gandhi's words five years ago when they were facing the challenge of a new enemy. She said at the time that in the past India had stood on the side of the Vietnamese people and today India was standing beside them, and would always side with the Vietnamese people in their hard times as well as in peace.

Neither will we forget her heartfelt words at her meeting with Le Duan, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, on September 21 during his visit to India, reiterating the Indian Government and people's great support to the Vietnamese people in national construction and defence.

In her lifetime, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi often evoked as an unforgettable memory her visit to Vietnam in 1954 during which she was very happy to be accepted by President Ho Chi Minh as his niece and to call him "Uncle Ho". She wished to be able to come back one day to Vietnam to share with the Vietnamese people the joy of complete national independence and reunification. Unfortunately, that noble and close friend of ours has departed from us for ever.

Sharing with the fraternal Indian people this deep sorrow, the Vietnamese people pledge to do all they can to consolidate and develop the comprehensive solidarity and friendship between Vietnam and India in the interests of the two peoples and of peace and security in Asia and elsewhere in the world.

We are deeply convinced that the great, courageous and talented Indian people will overcome all trials caused by the enemies inside and outside the country and firmly march forward to live up to Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi's noble cause of making India an independent, peaceful, unified and powerful country.

Rajiv Gandhi Congratulated

OW031922 Hanoi VNA in English 1556 GMT 3 Nov 84

[Text] Hanoi VNA November 3 -- Chairman of the Vietnamese Council of Ministers Pham Van Dong today sent a congratulatory message to Rajiv Gandhi on his appointment as prime minister of India. The message says: "I am convinced that, loyal to the noble ideals of Mahatma Gandhi, Jawahar Lal Nehru and Indira Gandhi, the great people of India under the leadership of the government headed by Your Excellency will certainly overcome all difficulties and trials and record yet greater successes in their lofty cause of building the great, independent, unified and prosperous Republic of India with a view to bettering the life of the Indian people and making their important contribution to the struggle for peace, national independence, democracy and social progress in the world.

"I am also confident that in the capacity of the chairman of the Non-aligned Movement, India will continue to bring into full play its role and prestige in realizing the noble objectives of the movement and effectively implementing the resolutions of the movement's seventh summit in New Delhi.

"I sincerely wish the traditional friendship, solidarity and multi-faceted cooperation between our two countries, which have been painstakingly cultivated by President Ho Chi Minh, Prime Minister Jawahar Lal Nehru and Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and which have finely developed, constant development in the coming years in the interests of the Vietnamese and Indian peoples and of peace, friendship and cooperation among countries in our region and the world over. [sentence as received]

"Please accept, Your Excellency, my best wishes for your successes in your noble mission and for your good health."

BRIEFS

INTELLECTUALS VISIT HUNGARY -- Hanoi VNA Nov 3 -- A delegation of Vietnamese intellectuals headed by Vo Sang Nghiep visited Hungary from Oct 23 to Nov 1, at the invitation of the National Council of the Hungarian Patriotic People's Front. It was warmly received by Robert Ribanszki, secretary of the National Council of the front. While there, the delegation was briefed about the general situation in Hungary and Hungary's experience in economic management. It toured a number of economic, cultural, scientific and educational establishments and localities. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1607 GMT 3 Nov 84 OW]

VICE PRESIDENT, DELEGATION RETURN FROM INIDA

BK050957 Jakarta International Service in English 0800 GMT 5 Nov 84

[Text] Vice President Umar Wirahadikusumah arrived home in Jakarta from New Delhi at the head of an Indonesian delegation representing the Indonesian Government in the cremation of the late Indira Gandhi, yesterday. The Indonesian delegation attending the cremation ceremony consisted of Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja, Parliamentary Vice Chairman Amir Murtono, and several other high-ranking officials.

Concerning the leadership of the Nonaligned Movement after the passing away of Mrs Indira Gandhi, Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja told newsmen at the airport yesterday that it would possible be in the hands of the new prime minister of India, Rajiv Gandhi, but there was still no official statement for that, he added.

ENERGY MINISTER DISCUSSES PRODUCTION CUTBACK

LD021727 Vienna OPECNA in English 1300 GMT 2 Nov 84

[Text] Vienna, 2 Nov. 84 (OPECNA) -- Indonesian Mines and Energy Minister Dr Subroto said here Thursday that OPEC's decision to cut oil production by 1.5 million b/d was not a mere political move. "It will cause a real shortage in the market," he declared.

In an earlier statement, Subroto had said the oil price cuts by non-OPEC countries Britain and Norway were more politically motivated rather than reflecting purely economic considerations. The minister said that following the OPEC cutback, agreed at this week's meeting of oil ministers in Geneva, the organization was in a "strong" position, and he noted that prices on the spot market had begun to improve.

Subroto, who presided at the Geneva meeting, said the OPEC cutback from 17.5 million to 16 million b/d was temporary, adding that he did not believe there should be a further decrease. If the market improved, OPEC might review its overall production. He estimated demand for OPEC oil during the last two months of this year would reach 18 to 19 million b/d.

Subroto said the present situation, where there was lower demand for OPEC oil, would not weaken the organization. He pointed out that in the 1990's, non-OPEC producers, particularly in the North Sea area, would reach the plateau of their oil output. On OPEC's unity, he said that an organization of 13 countries which was able to stay together for almost 25 years was a "miracle". Subroto added that certain OPEC members were currently facing difficulties, with Nigeria in a "rather unique" situation, although oil was not the main cause of the country's problems.

ATTACK ON VERIFICATION TEAM PROTESTED TO PNG

BK050336 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 2300 GMT 4 Nov 84

[Text] The Indonesian Government has lodged a strong protest with the Government of Papua New Guinea in connection with the attack on an Indonesian verification team by border crossers in Black Water camp in Vanimo. The protest was made through the Embassy of Papua New Guinea in Jakarta as well as to the prime minister of Papua New Guinea in Port Moresby.

Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja said in Jakarta yesterday that the verification team had been instructed to return to Jayapura and the Papua New Guinea Government was told that the verification team would only return to carry out its mission if security could be guaranteed. According to Minister Mokhtar, Indonesia regretted the incident because the security guaranteed by the Government of Papua New Guinea had not been proven.

\$4 BILLION NEW COMMERCIAL LOANS ASSURED

HK050023 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 4 Nov 84

[Text] The Philippines has been assured of about \$4 billion in new commercial bank loans and trade facilities, with the formal approval of the country's economic recovery program by Jacques de Larosiere, managing director of the International Monetary Fund. This was learned yesterday [4 November] from sources close to the 12-bank advisory committee of some 483 private commercial banks that, in tandem with the IMF, is working out a loan package for the Philippines under the recovery program.

The banking sources said that IMF Board approval of the Philippine request for a \$630 million standby credit from the institution is likely to come by December, following Larosiere's actions. They said that Larosiere's approval gives the commercial banks the go-ahead to begin releasing at least \$925 million in new money previously negotiated by Philippine Prime Minister Cesar Virata and Central Bank Governor Jose Fernandez.

Also as a result of the approval, trade facilities of about \$3 billion could now be tapped for the remainder of 1984 and the whole of 1985. The advisory committee, according to the sources, has telexed their other members asking them to now start work on the release of the loans earlier agreed on. In this connection, Prime Minister Virata and Central Bank Governor Fernandez are expected in the United States shortly to conduct follow-up talks with major commercial bank creditors of the Philippines.

PAPER URGES INVESTIGATION OF GOVERNMENT BANKS

HK021446 Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 30 Oct 84 pp 1, 4

[Editorial: "Probe Government Banks"]

[Text] Now that final IMF approval of the \$630 million standby credit is assured, the time has come for a thorough and no-holds-barred investigation of all government financial institutions. It is public knowledge that without the violations and anomalies committed by the Development Bank, Philippine National Bank, Land Bank and Philippine Veterans Bank and to some extent, the Government Service Insurance System, the national economy would not have deteriorated to the present crisis level.

Big loans, amounting to thousands of millions of pesos, were given out to favored business establishments and conglomerates under questionable circumstances. This is well known in business circles.

All these huge credits were given out by the government lending institutions without satisfying the strict standards of the Central Bank. In many instances, the loans were much more than the collaterals. In other cases, the collaterals were doctored to suit the amount applied for. In still other instances, the money obtained as credit was not applied to the purpose of the loans. No safeguards, it is now clear, were made by the government financial institutions to insure that the loans were utilized for the business ventures stated in the borrowers' application papers.

It is also established that most if not all of the multi-million peso loans were granted to friends and cronies of Malacanang and, worse, that the president is reported to have given instructions to the banks to lend money to the palace favorites.

The anomalies could not have happened if the officials of the five government lending houses, including the chairmen and directors who approved the loans, did their duties honestly and with a sense of responsibility. Although the Central Bank, under the law, is mandated to conduct the investigation of any erring bank it would be better if a special committee is created by the Batasang Pambansa. With independent accountants helping the legislative body, there is no danger of a cover-up or an out-and-out white-wash. The Filipino people must be told the truth.

RAMOS: INVESTIGATION OF EL DIABLO DEEPENING

HK030817 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0800 GMT 3 Nov 84

[Text] Acting Armed Forces Chief Fidel Ramos says military investigators are probing deeper into the devious activities of the so-called El Diablo group. Ramos said the investigation will go beyond [words indistinct] of the group and its relevant associations. He said investigators are examining the grey areas of the group, particularly those areas which constitute usurpation of the duties of the constabulary and police.

The El Diablo affair hit the front pages of the newspapers last week. It is described as an army within an army. This prompted President Marcos to order an investigation into the group's activities. Ramos said the Armed Forces judge advocate-general, the intelligence service, and the Military Police brigade are jointly conducting a thorough investigation of the El Diablo case.

ARMY COMMANDER, OLIVAS TO RETIRE THIS MONTH

HK020820 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 1 Nov 84

[Text] Ten more generals whose services had been extended are due for retirement this month and in December. Among those slated for retirement this month are Army Commander Major General Josephus Ramas and, on leave, Metrocom [Metropolitan Command] Commander Major General Prospero Olivas. Also due for retirement this month are Central Visayas Regional Commander Brigadier General Alfredo Olano Presidential Security Command chief Brigadier General Santiago Barangan, and Deputy Army Commander Brigadier General Ramon Cannu.

Retirable in December are Western Command chief Gil Fernandez and Brigadier Generals Angel Canapi, Simeon Ver, Angelo (Queting) and Cesar Pedro. Last month 17 generals and flag officers were retired from the service.

MALAYA EDITORIAL ON GENERALS' 'GIMMICK'

HK030339 Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 30 Oct 84 p 4

[Editorial: "Generals' Gimmick"]

[Text] The 69 AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] generals who bought space in the BULLETIN TODAY last Sunday to publish a one-page manifesto expressing their loyalty to their erstwhile chief of staff and their belief in his innocence must have more money than they know how to spend.

Their one-page advertisement cost some P [pesos] 40,000, and although this sum is not much during these days of high inflation, a general's pay and allowances are not exactly something to brag about.

What good purpose the advertisement was expected to accomplish is nebulous. The generals could have simply signed a written resolution and sent it to General Ver, copy furnished the president, media and even the tanodbayan and the sandiganbayan. They could have saved their money in this way.

But there is something disturbing about their expression of loyalty to General Ver. Should their loyalty go to one man, rather than to the flag and to the country?

And in manifesting their belief in the innocence of General Ver, don't they feel the same for the two other generals, Prospero Olivas and Luther Custodio? Whoever thought of the advertising gimmick did not think of the implications of the move. From this corner, it appears to be ill-timed, uncalled-for, improper and a waste of good money.

EDITORIAL WELCOMES OF APPOINTMENT OF GEN RAMOS

HK030337 Quezon City ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA in English 28 Oct 84 p 4

[Editorial: "Gen Ramos' Job"]

[Text] A 24-carat professional soldier steeped thoroughly in the strict code of honor of West Point of which he is a graduate, Lt. Gen Fidel Ramos, the new AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] chief of staff, has pledged that "in the face of recent events, the most vital and urgent tasks that the AFP must now fulfill are to improve and keep our people's faith in their Armed Forces, enhance the morale of the men and women in uniform, and increase the AFP's operational effectiveness as the defender of our national security and stability."

If he can do this -- and there is no reason why he should fail -- then General Ramos will have changed the popular conception of the AFP as the people's oppressor and not their protector. Since the start of martial law in 1972 and up to the present, the military has, by widescale abuses and use of terror tactics on even innocent people, carved a bad name for itself. This is one reason why the NPA has gained more and more adherents and why public demonstrations have been on the rise.

To achieve his mission, the new AFP chief will have to completely overhaul the entire Armed Forces, including the Integrated National Police which has been attached to the AFP, weed out and prosecute the many bad eggs, and reorient the thinking of the 200,000 officers and men in the organization from loyalty to personalities to loyalty to flag and country. How far the general can go, however, will depend entirely upon the degree of support of the president. We wish General Ramos all the luck in all his efforts to salvage the image of the AFP.

MARCOS APPROVES PAY HIKE FOR ARMED FORCES

HK040408 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 1100 GMT 3 Nov 84

[Text] President Marcos has approved a 10 percent increase in the basic salary of members of the Armed Forces. At the same time, the president raised the daily subsistence of soldiers from 8 pesos to 12 pesos. Acting Armed Forces Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Fidel Ramos said that the president also approved an increase in the cost-of-living allowance of Armed Forces members and civilian employees from 100 pesos to 150 pesos a month. Ramos said the 10 percent across-the-board increase in the basic pay of soldiers is retroactive to May 1 this year. The daily subsistence is retroactive to August 1, also this year.

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